

Archie

ADVENTURE
SERIES

NO. 61
JULY

US \$1.75
CAN \$1.85

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

TM



**DANGER
IN
DOWNUNDA!**

SPAZZO
LAPAZO

SONIC & TAILS

in

OUTBACK GUT CHECK

LOOK, STU--
IT'S WALT, BARBY
AND THAT FAR OUT
FOX NAMED
TAILS!*

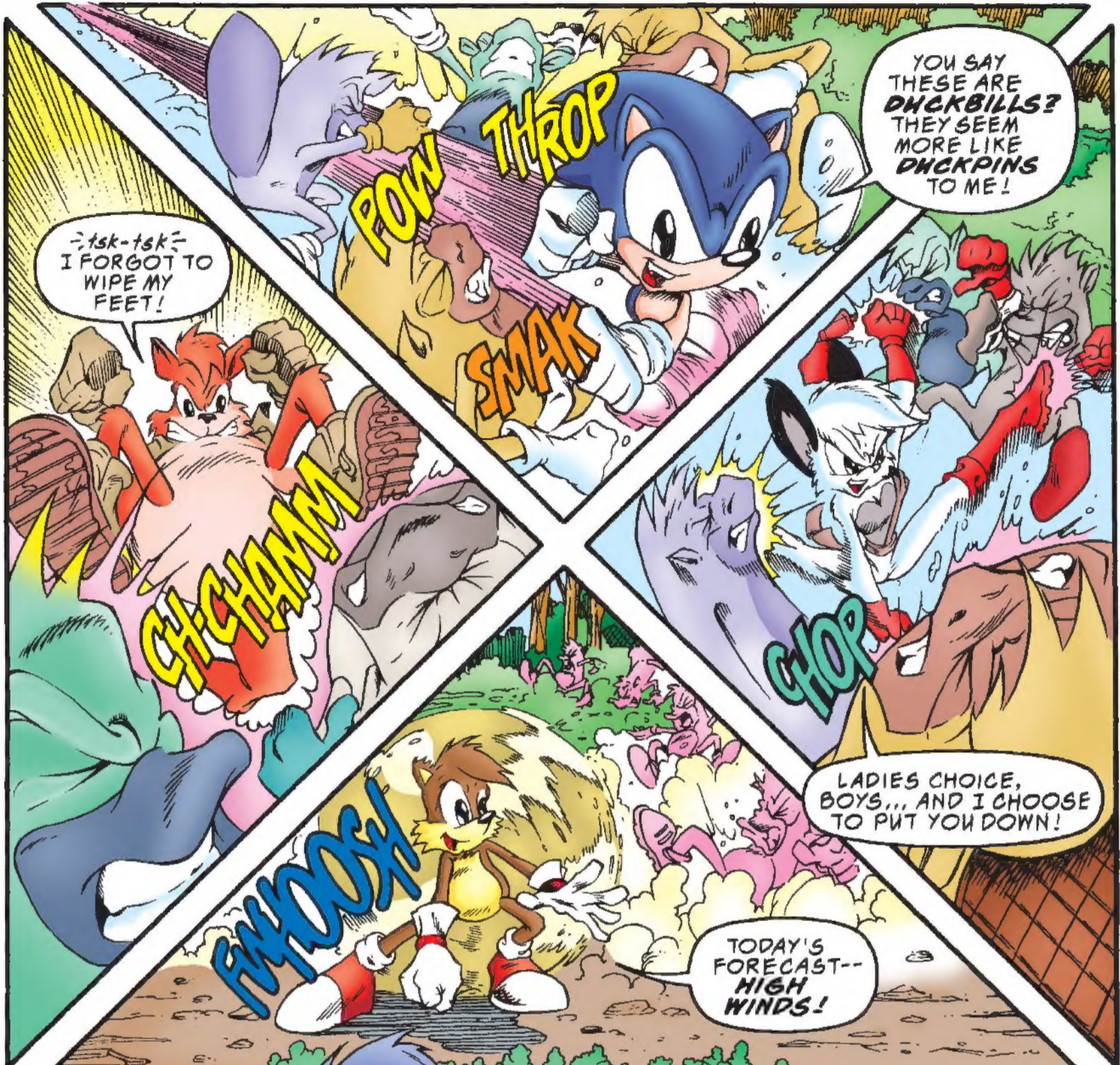
BUT HOW'D
THEY FIND US? AND
WHO'S THE SPINY
BLUE GUY?

THE NAME'S
SONIC THE HEDGE-
HOG... AND WE'LL
EXPLAIN EVERY-
THING AFTER WE
TRASH THESE
FLAT-TAILED
FREAKS!

ON MY
SIGNAL,
EVERYBODY
... **NOW!**

* The DFF first appeared
in the highly acclaimed
TAILS 3-issue mini-
series -- EDITOR.

WRITER: MIKE GALLAGHER ARTIST: HARVO MERCADOOCASIO COLORIST: FRANK GAGLIARDO LETTERER: JEFF POWELL EDITOR: J. FREDDY GABRIE MNG. EDITOR: VICTOR GORELICK EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: RICHARD GOLDWATER



YOU SAY THESE ARE **DUCKBILLS**? THEY SEEM MORE LIKE **DUCKPINS** TO ME!

-tsk-tsk-
I FORGOT TO WIPE MY FEET!

POW THROP

SMACK

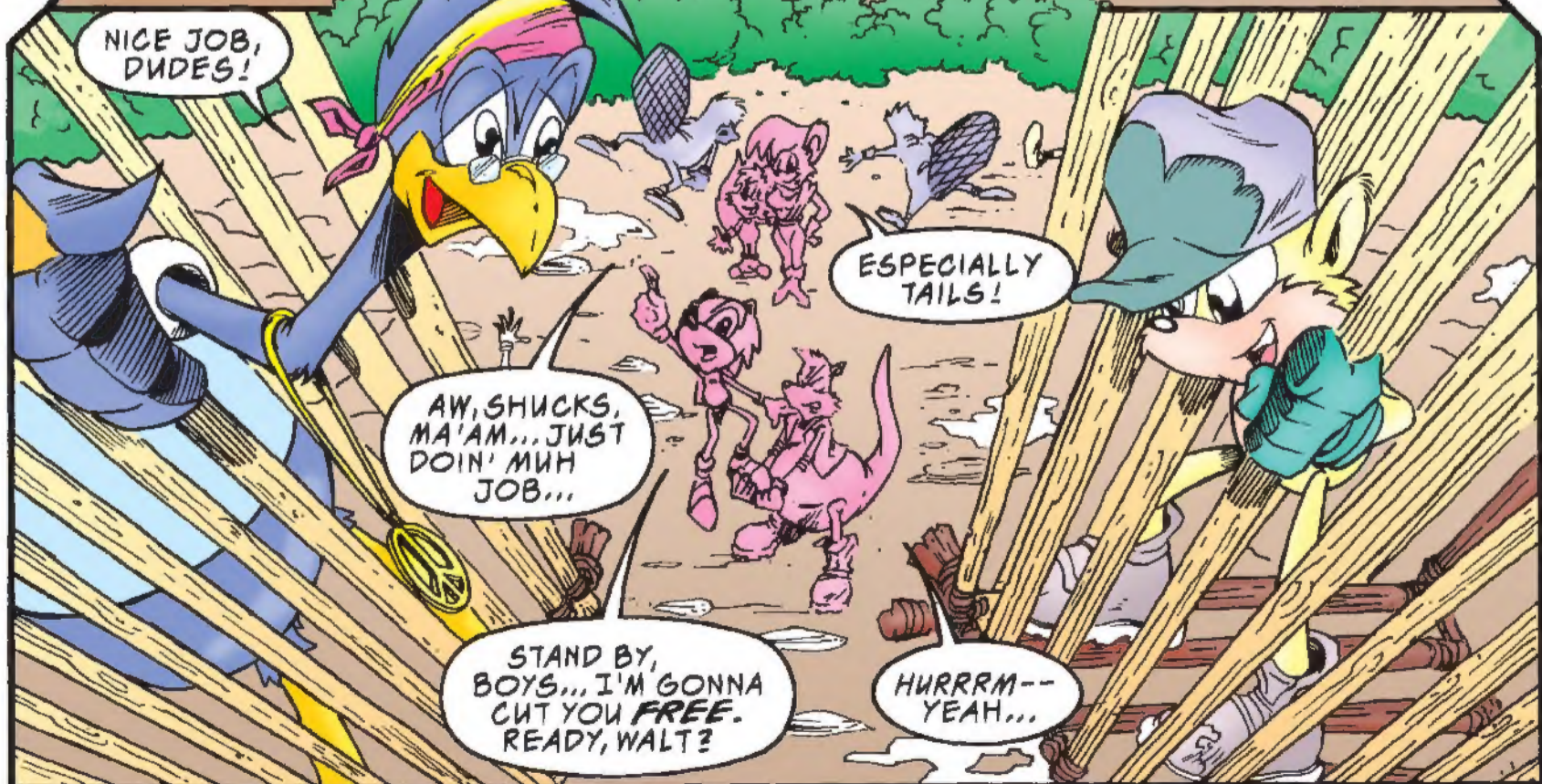
CH-CHANN

CHOP

LADIES CHOICE, BOYS... AND I CHOOSE TO PUT YOU DOWN!

SMASH

TODAY'S FORECAST--
HIGH WINDS!



NICE JOB, DUDES!

ESPECIALLY TAILS!

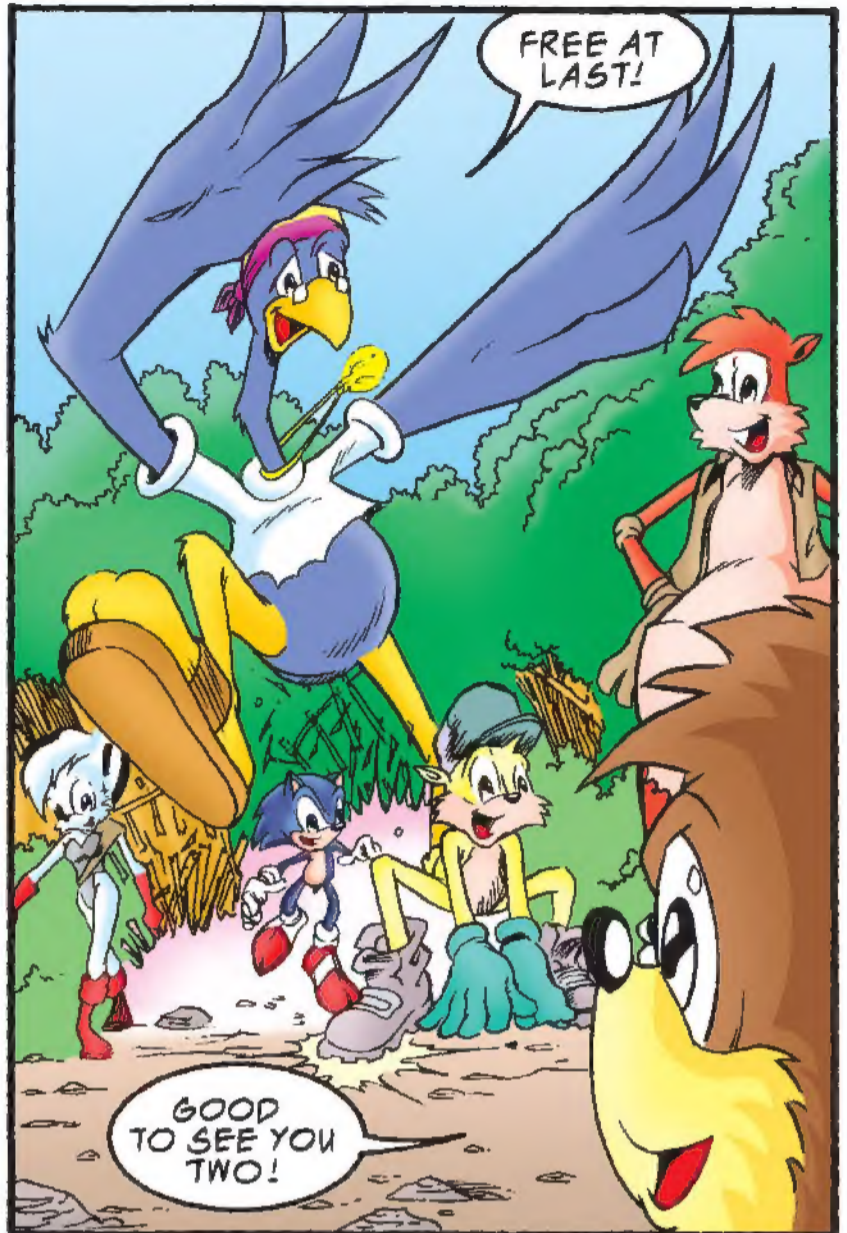
AW, SHUCKS, MA'AM... JUST DOIN' MUH JOB...

STAND BY, BOYS... I'M GONNA CUT YOU **FREE**.
READY, WALT?

HURRRM--
YEAH...



YOU'RE FREE AS A BIRD--ER--AND A WOMBAT!



FREE AT LAST!

GOOD TO SEE YOU TWO!



HAVE YOU SEEN BILL?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK HERE?

HOW LONG WERE WE--

I SAW YOU ON THE POST CARD--*

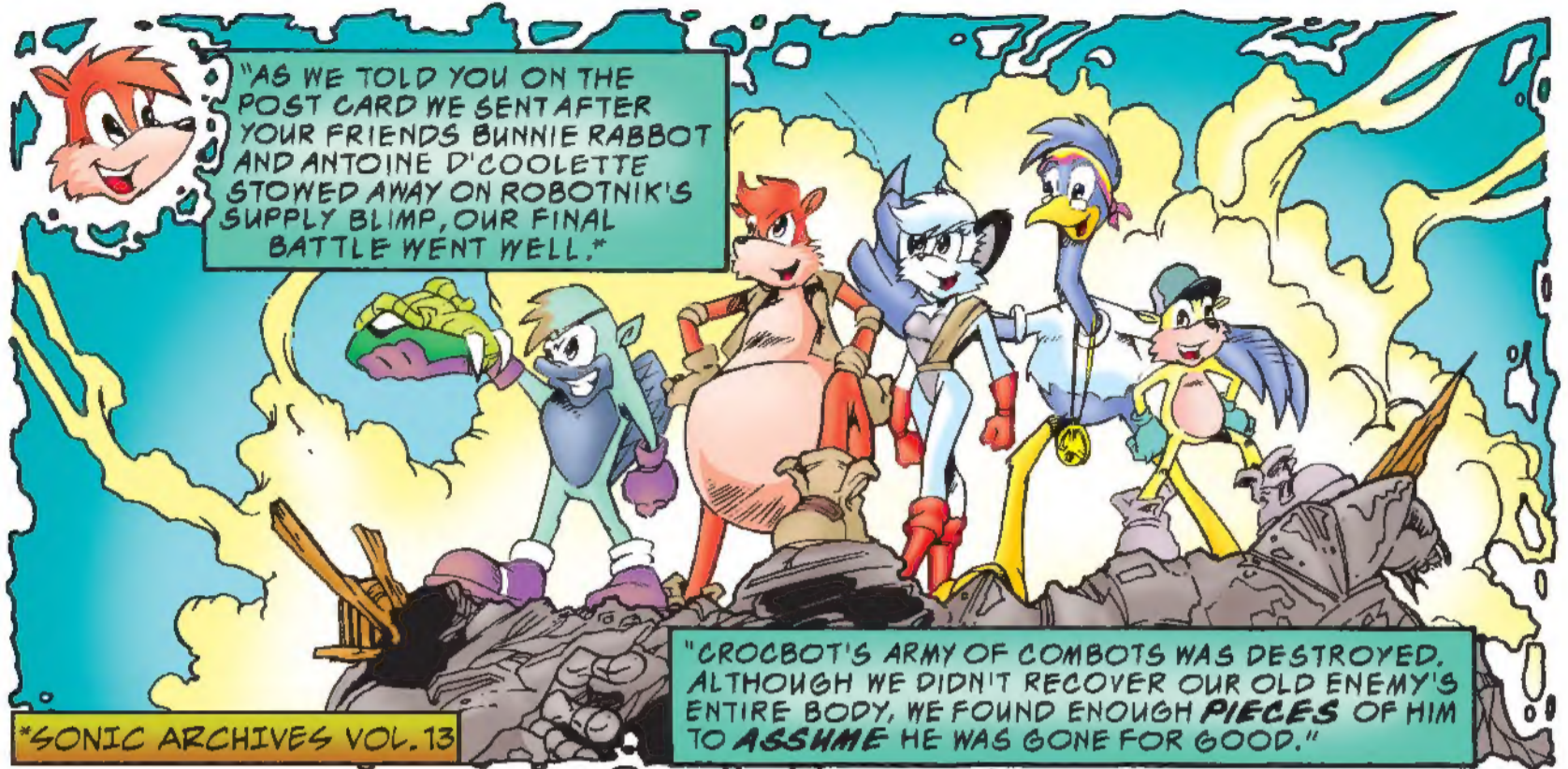
SONIC--COME MEET MY FRIENDS!

WAIT A MINUTE!

* Seen in SONIC Archives Vol/# 13--ED.



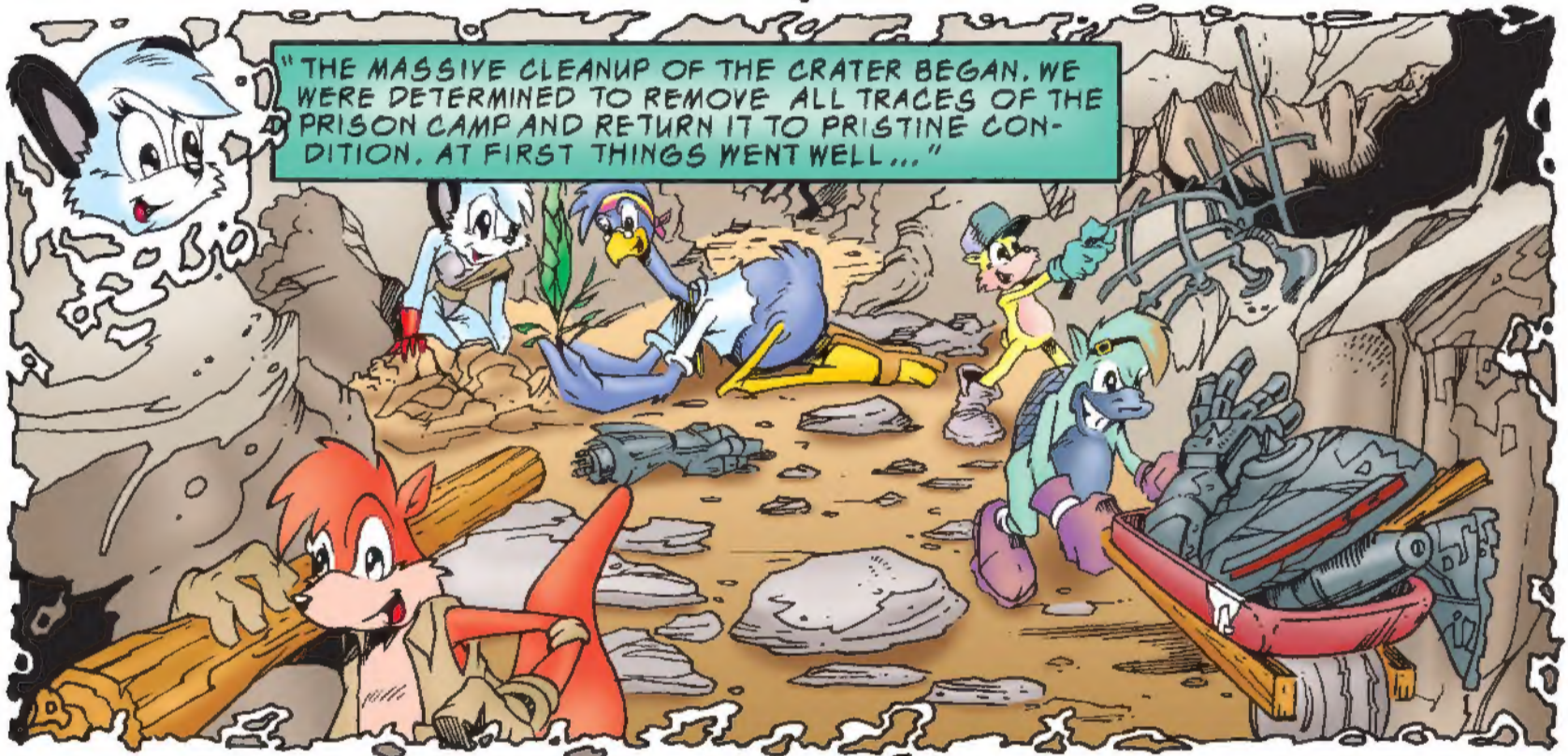
LET'S BRING EVERYBODY UP TO SPEED BY STARTING AT THE BEGINNING. THAT WOULD BE RIGHT AFTER THE FINAL COMBOT CLASH...



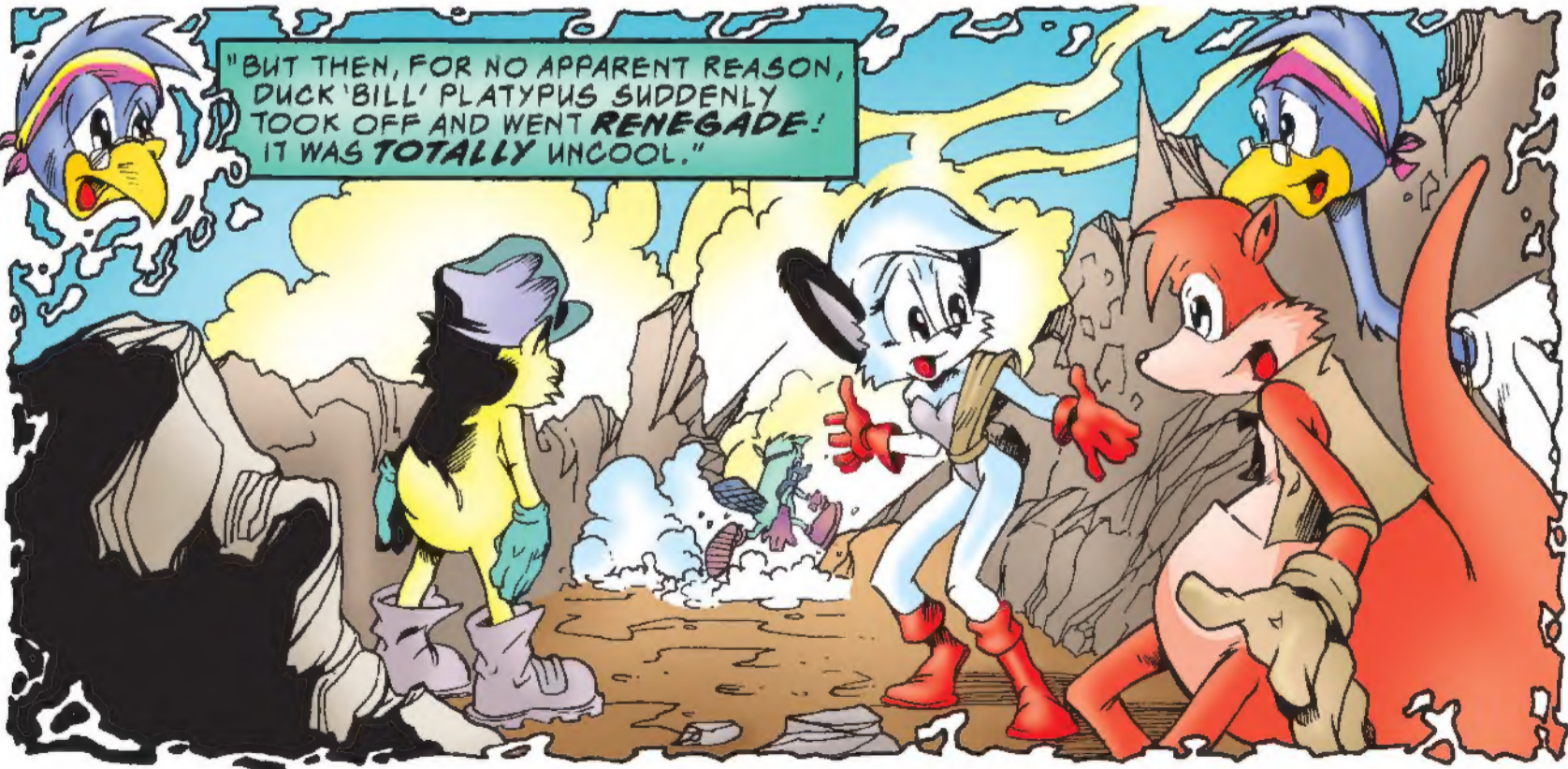
"AS WE TOLD YOU ON THE POST CARD WE SENT AFTER YOUR FRIENDS BUNNIE RABBIT AND ANTOINE D'COOLETTE STOWED AWAY ON ROBOTNIK'S SUPPLY BLIMP, OUR FINAL BATTLE WENT WELL."

"CROCBOT'S ARMY OF COMBOTS WAS DESTROYED. ALTHOUGH WE DIDN'T RECOVER OUR OLD ENEMY'S ENTIRE BODY, WE FOUND ENOUGH **PIECES** OF HIM TO **ASSUME** HE WAS GONE FOR GOOD."

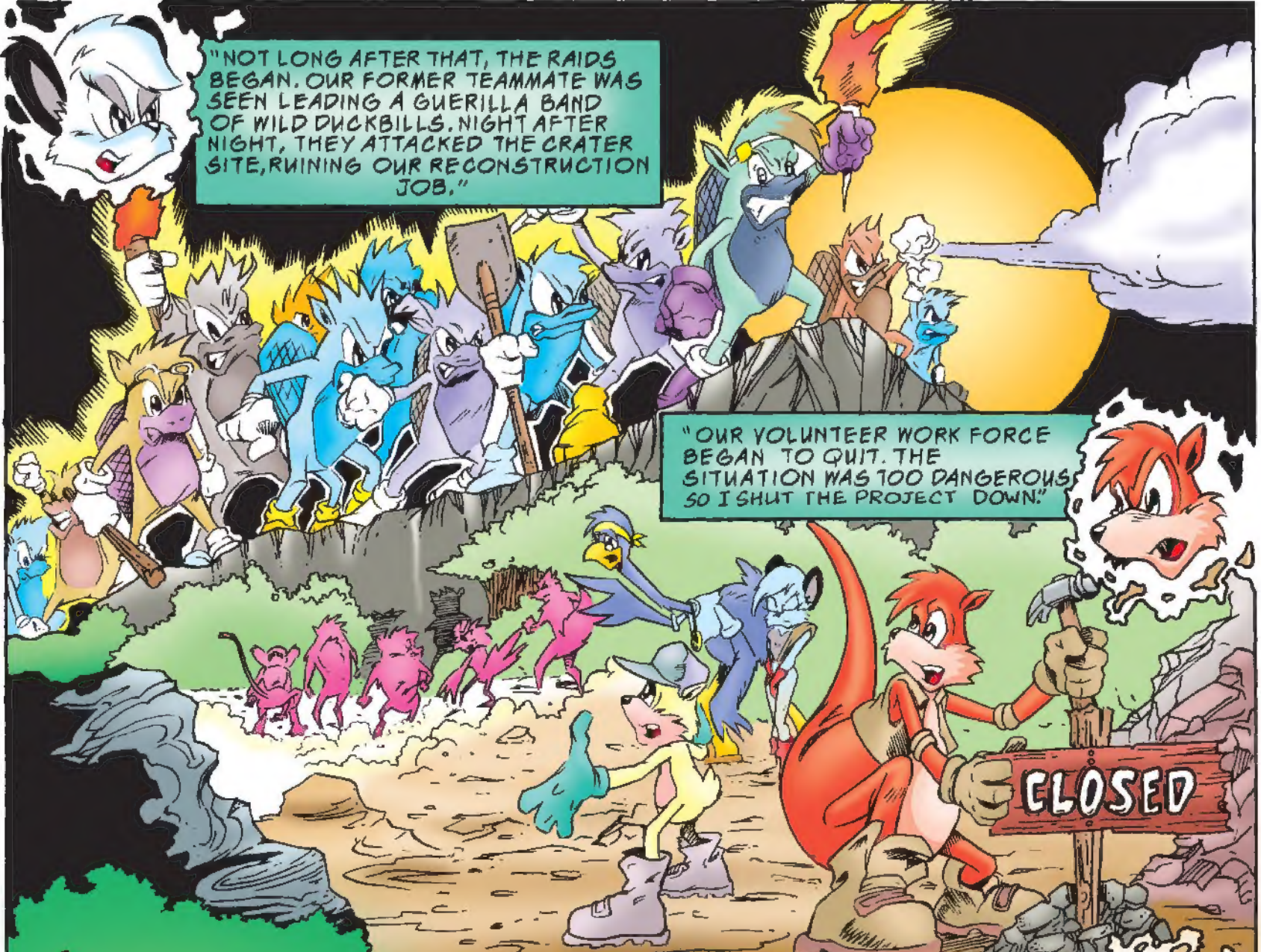
*SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 13



"THE MASSIVE CLEANUP OF THE CRATER BEGAN. WE WERE DETERMINED TO REMOVE ALL TRACES OF THE PRISON CAMP AND RETURN IT TO PRISTINE CONDITION. AT FIRST THINGS WENT WELL..."



"BUT THEN, FOR NO APPARENT REASON, DUCK 'BILL' PLATYPUS SUDDENLY TOOK OFF AND WENT **RENEGADE!** IT WAS **TOTALLY UNCOOL.**"

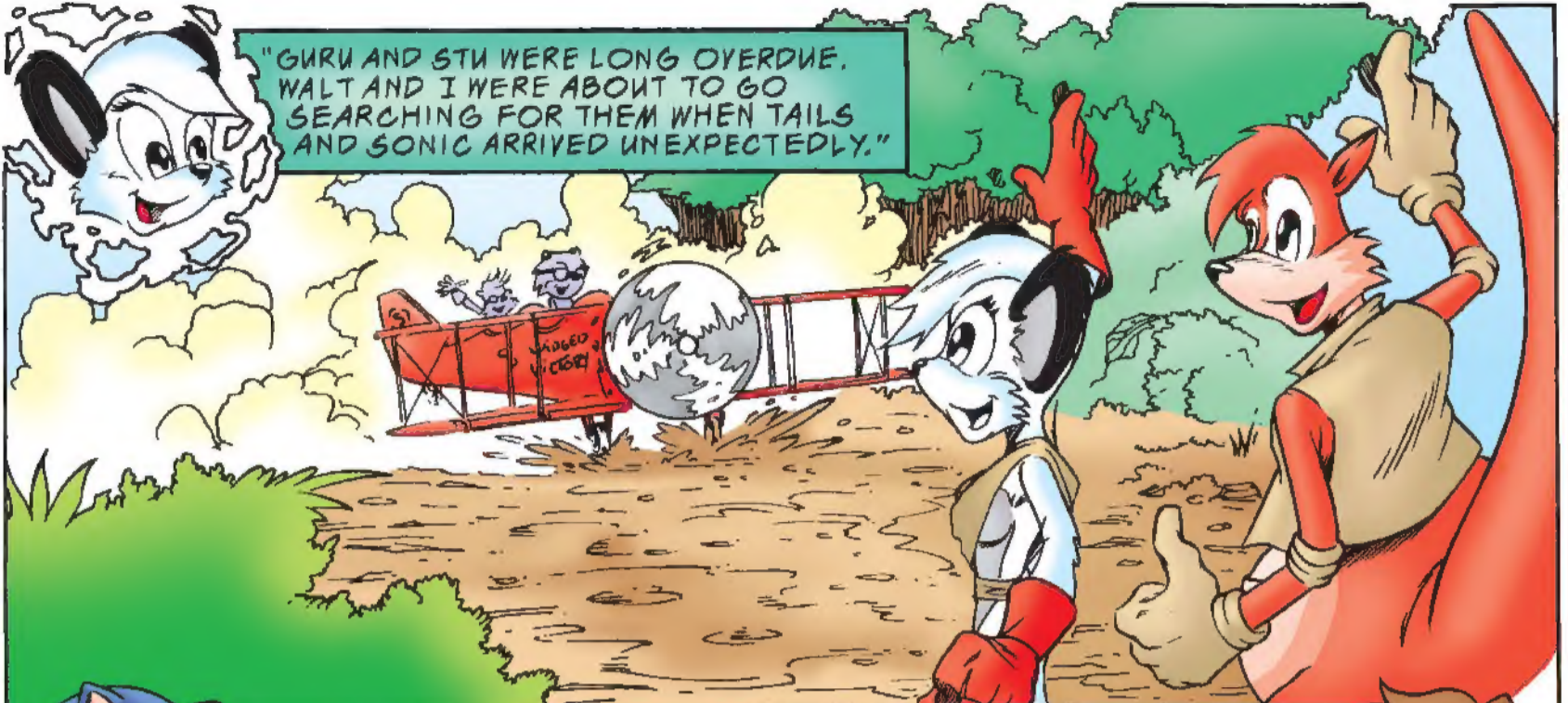


"NOT LONG AFTER THAT, THE RAIDS BEGAN. OUR FORMER TEAMMATE WAS SEEN LEADING A GUERRILLA BAND OF WILD DUCKBILLS. NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, THEY ATTACKED THE CRATER SITE, RUINING OUR RECONSTRUCTION JOB."

"OUR VOLUNTEER WORK FORCE BEGAN TO QUIT. THE SITUATION WAS TOO DANGEROUS, SO I SHUT THE PROJECT DOWN."

"SOON, WE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM BILL, ASKING GURU AND I TO MEET HIM HERE IN THE OUTBACK. HE SAID HE WAS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE AN END TO THE HOSTILITIES. AFTER DISCUSSING IT, WE AGREED TO GO."

"BUT HIS OFFER WAS MEGA-BOGUS! WE WERE **AMBUSHED** AND LOOPEO UP IN THOSE CAGES YOU JUST FREED US FROM!"



"GURU AND STU WERE LONG OYERDUE, WALT AND I WERE ABOUT TO GO SEARCHING FOR THEM WHEN TAILS AND SONIC ARRIVED UNEXPECTEDLY."



"TAILS AND I HAVE BEEN ADVENTURING TOGETHER LATELY. SINCE WE WERE IN THE AREA, THE NEW MOBOTROPOLIS POSTWAR COUNCIL HAD ASKED US TO STOP HERE AND ASSESS THE SITUATION AT THE CRATER. NEEDLESS TO SAY, YOU GUYS NEEDED HELP."

"WITH A LITTLE AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE, WE PICKED UP YOUR TRAIL AND WENT ON A WALKABOUT, TRACKING YOU TO THIS LOCATION."



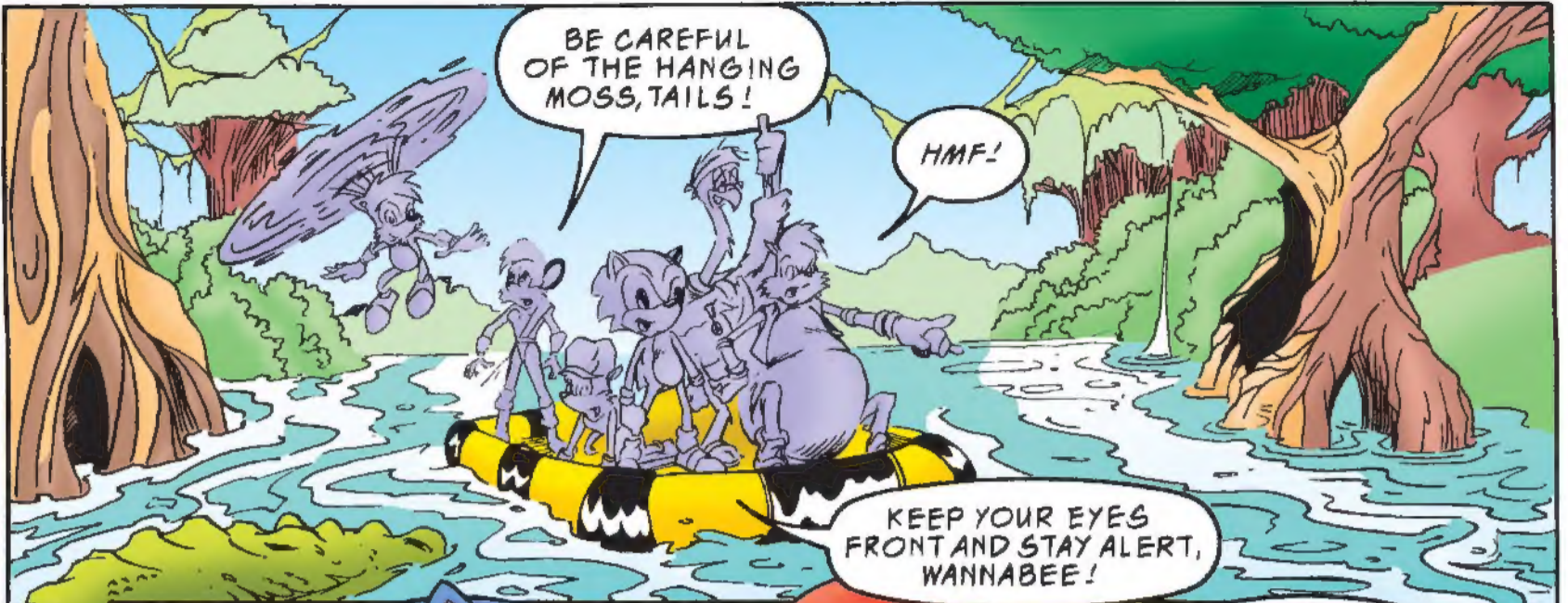
LET'S SPLIT THIS SCENE AND FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH DUCK "BILL" PLATYPUS!

YOU BET ... COME ON, TAILS!



FOLLOW ME, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

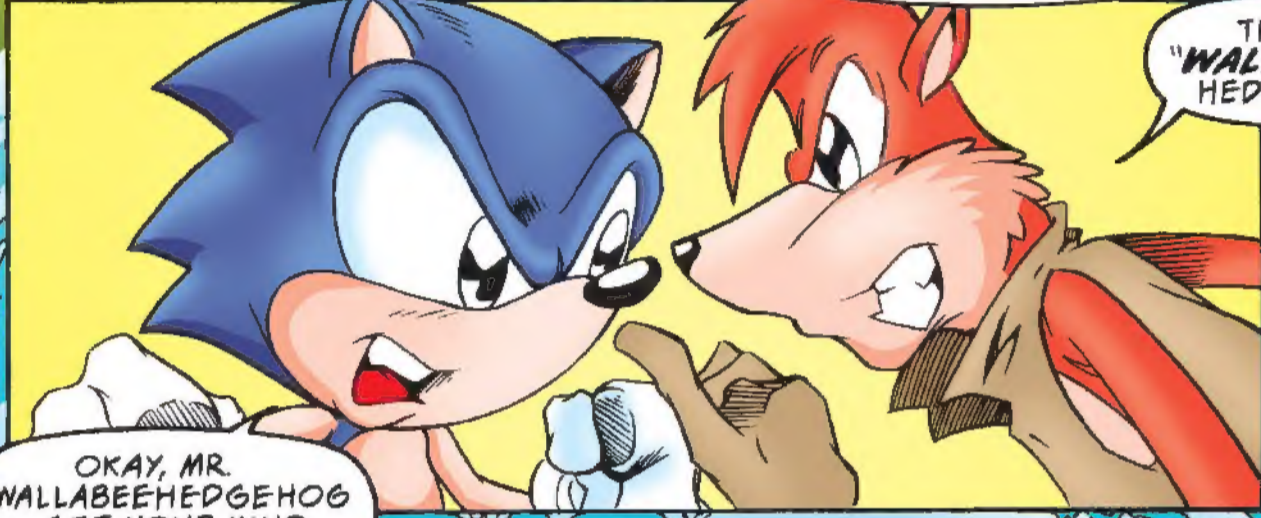
HEY, HEDGEHOG-- I GIVE THE ORDERS HERE IN DOWNUNDA... FOLLOW **ME**, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!



BE CAREFUL OF THE HANGING MOSS, TAILS!

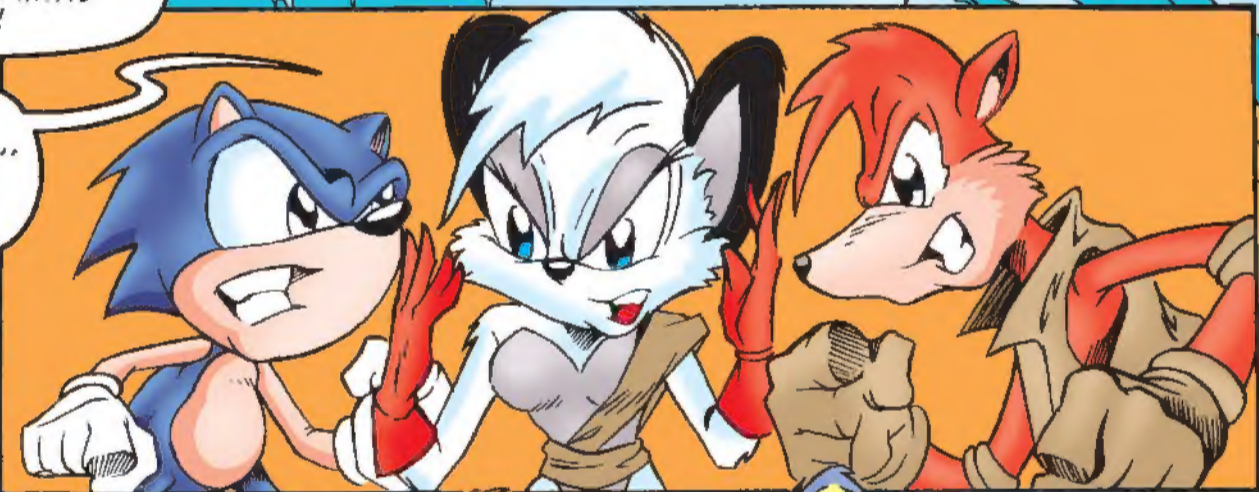
HMF!

KEEP YOUR EYES FRONT AND STAY ALERT, WANNABEE!

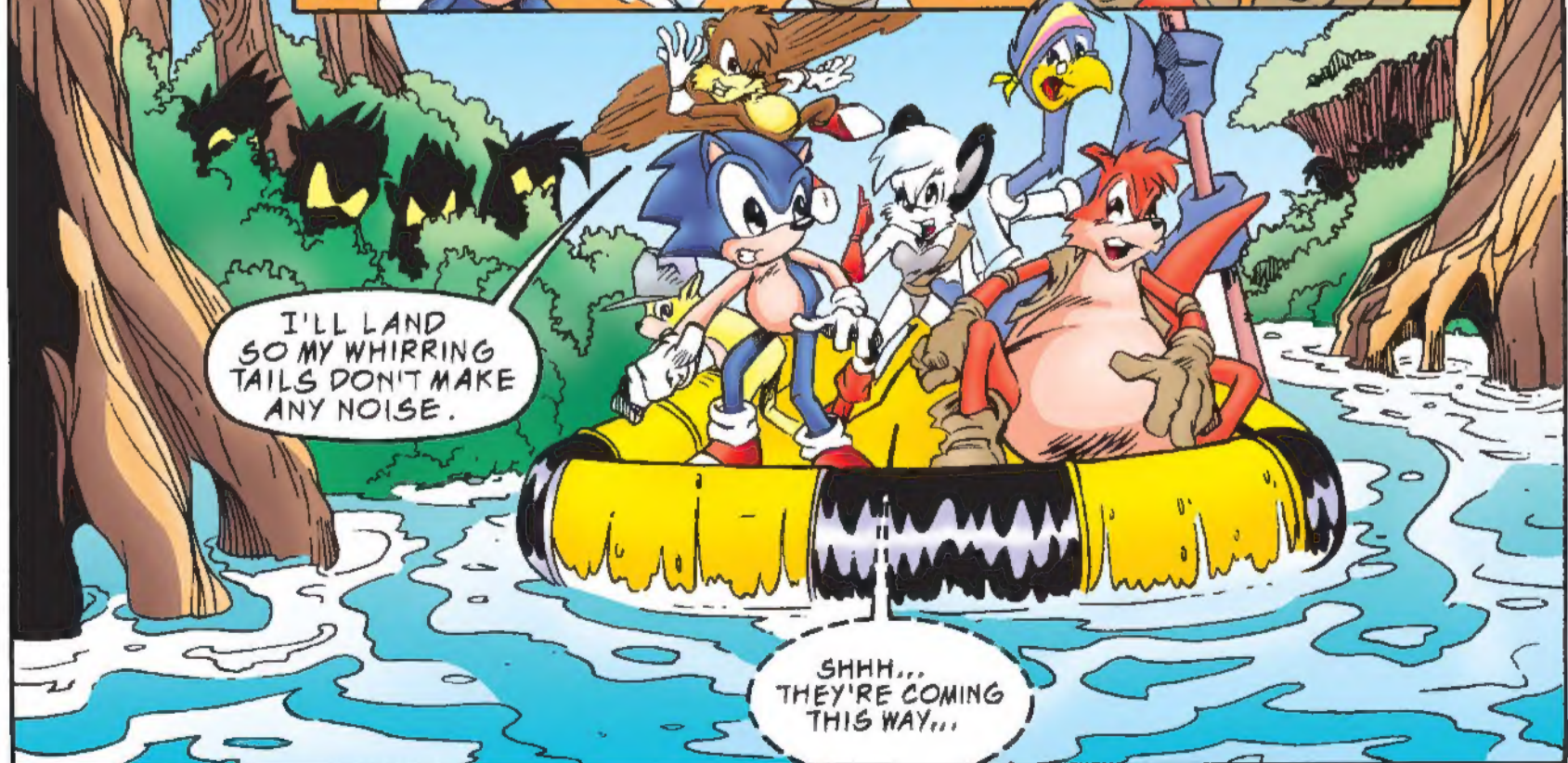


THAT'S "WALLABEE" HEDGEHOG!

OKAY, MR. WALLABEEHEDGEHOG ... GET YOUR MIND RIGHT!

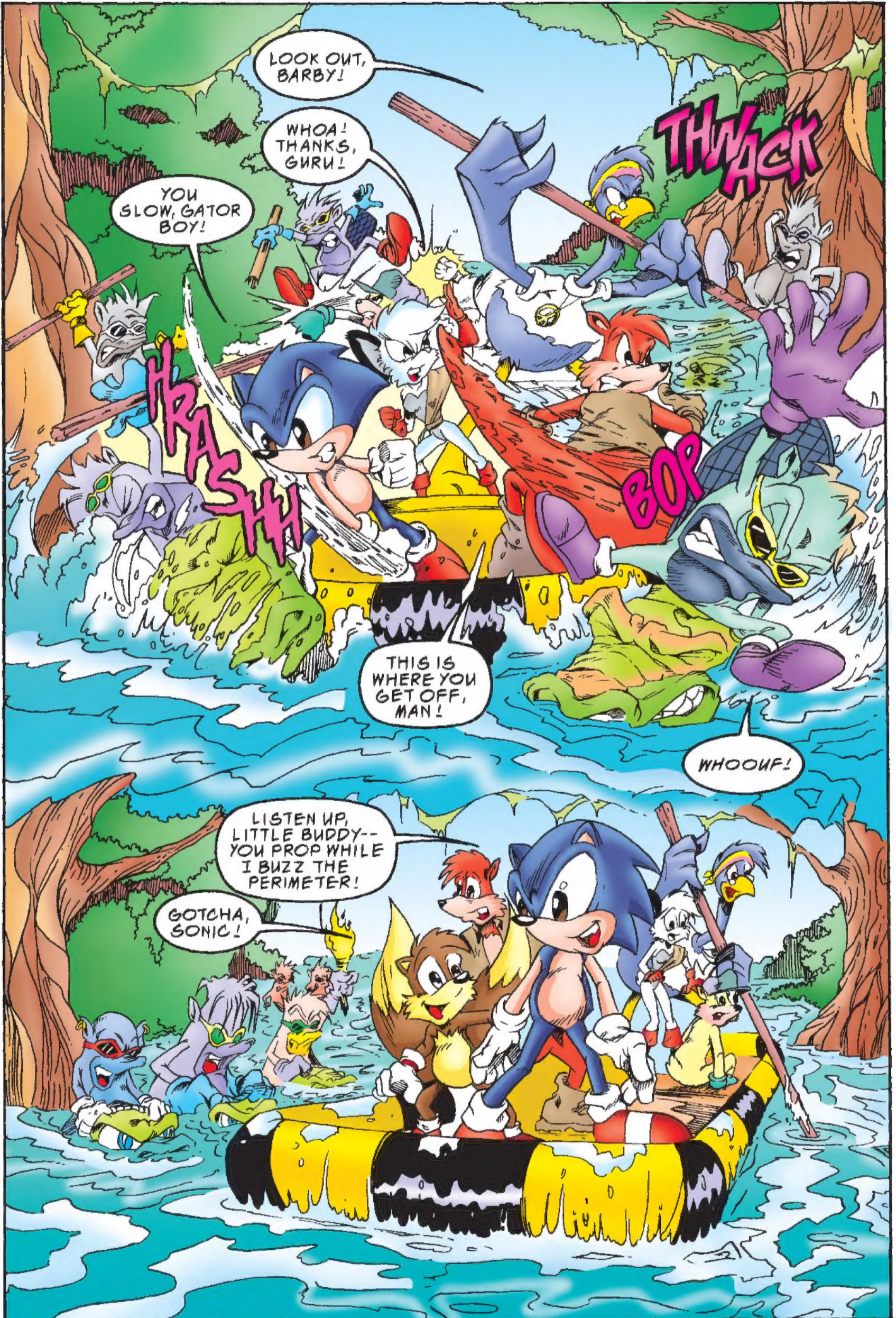


KNOCK IT OFF YOU TWO... AND HUSH! I HEARD SOMETHING!



I'LL LAND SO MY WHIRRING TAILS DON'T MAKE ANY NOISE.

SHHH... THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY...



LOOK OUT, BARBY!

WHOA! THANKS, GURU!

YOU SLOW, GATOR BOY!

THWACK

HRASSH

BOP

THIS IS WHERE YOU GET OFF, MAN!

WHOOUF!

LISTEN UP, LITTLE BUDDY-- YOU PROP WHILE I BUZZ THE PERIMETER!

GOTCHA, SONIC!

HANG ON, EVERYONE! I'M TAKING US FROM ZERO TO FORTY KNOTS IN 7.3 SECONDS!

WHOA! GROOVY, MAN!

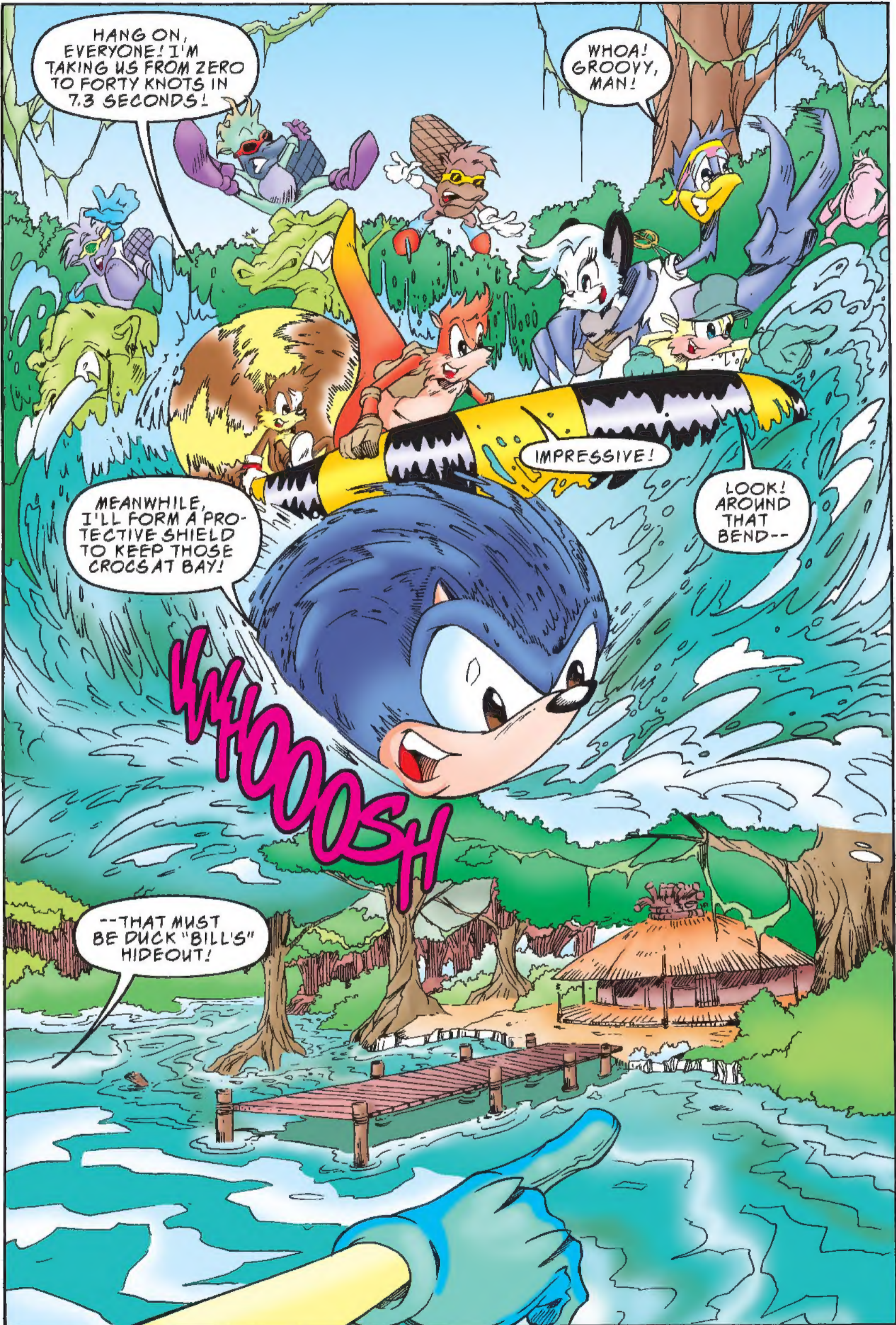
IMPRESSIVE!

LOOK! AROUND THAT BEND--

MEANWHILE, I'LL FORM A PROTECTIVE SHIELD TO KEEP THOSE CROSS AT BAY!

Whoosh

--THAT MUST BE DUCK "BILL'S" HIDEOUT!

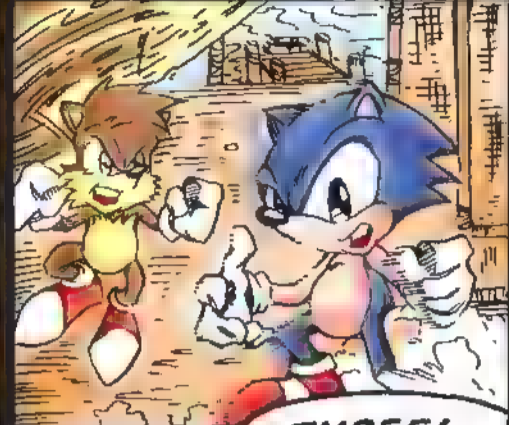


Of course there's no report from the hostage site! And what's with the croc patrol? They could be here any second! What should I do?

AND I CAN HEAR HIM... HE'S TALKING TO HIMSELF!

I CAN SEE HIM!

ON THREE, FREEDOM FIGHTERS... ONE--TWO--



THREE! SHOW'S OVER, BILLABONG!

OH, DEAR! HE LOOKS AWFUL!

Oh great! They're here! Now what do I do? ...Well?... Answer me!

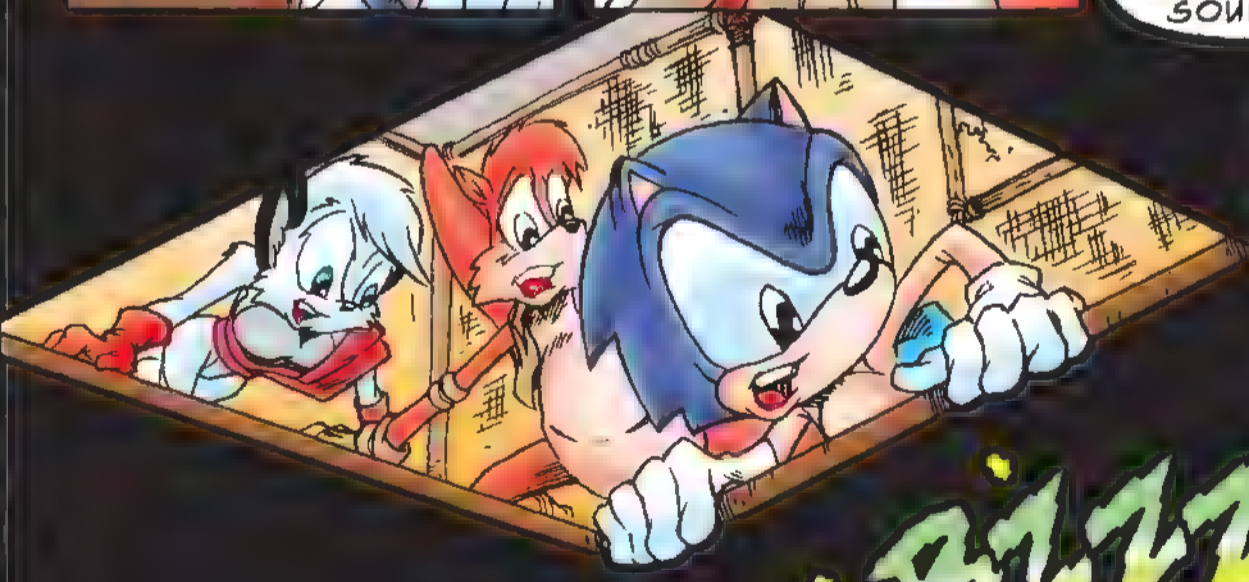
OH, MAN! BILL'S TOTALLY EXHAUSTED!

WHO WAS HE TALKING TO?

GNNNGH...

I CAN HEAR SOUNDS UNDERNEATH THE FLOOR... MECHANICAL SOUNDS!

I SEE THE OUTLINE OF A TRAP DOOR-- STAND BACK, SISTER!



BZZZT
CRACKLE

CROCBOT!

CURSE YOU
-DZZZZT-
FREEDOM
FIGHTERS...

-CRACKLE- MY PLAN ALMOST
SUCCEEDED! WHILE I HAD YOU
DOWN IN THE CRATER
DETENTION CAMP, I IMPLANTED
A POST-HYPNOTIC MIND CONTROL
DIODE BEHIND DUCK "BILL'S" EAR.

WHEN HE FOUND MY REMAINS
DURING THE CLEAN UP, THE VISUAL
STIMULI INITIATED THE PRO-
GRAMMING CHIP IN HIS HEAD.
THAT'S WHY HE FLED FROM YOU.
HIS MIND NOW BELONGED TO
-HMMMM- ME!

BILL'S FIRST TASK WAS TO
CONNECT ME TO A POWER SOURCE
SO I COULD INSTRUCT HIM. I
THEN ORDERED HIM TO RAISE A
DUCKBILL ARMY AND SEIZE THE
CRATER SITE. -YRAAP- AS YOU
KNOW, HE SUCCEEDED!

NEXT, THEY WOULD SALVAGE COMBOT PARTS
FROM THE SITE. I WOULD REASSEMBLE ONE
AND HAVE IT REBUILD ME. -BZZZZZZT- SOON,
I WOULD RISE TO POWER AGAIN AND HAVE
MY REVENGE ON ALL OF YOU!

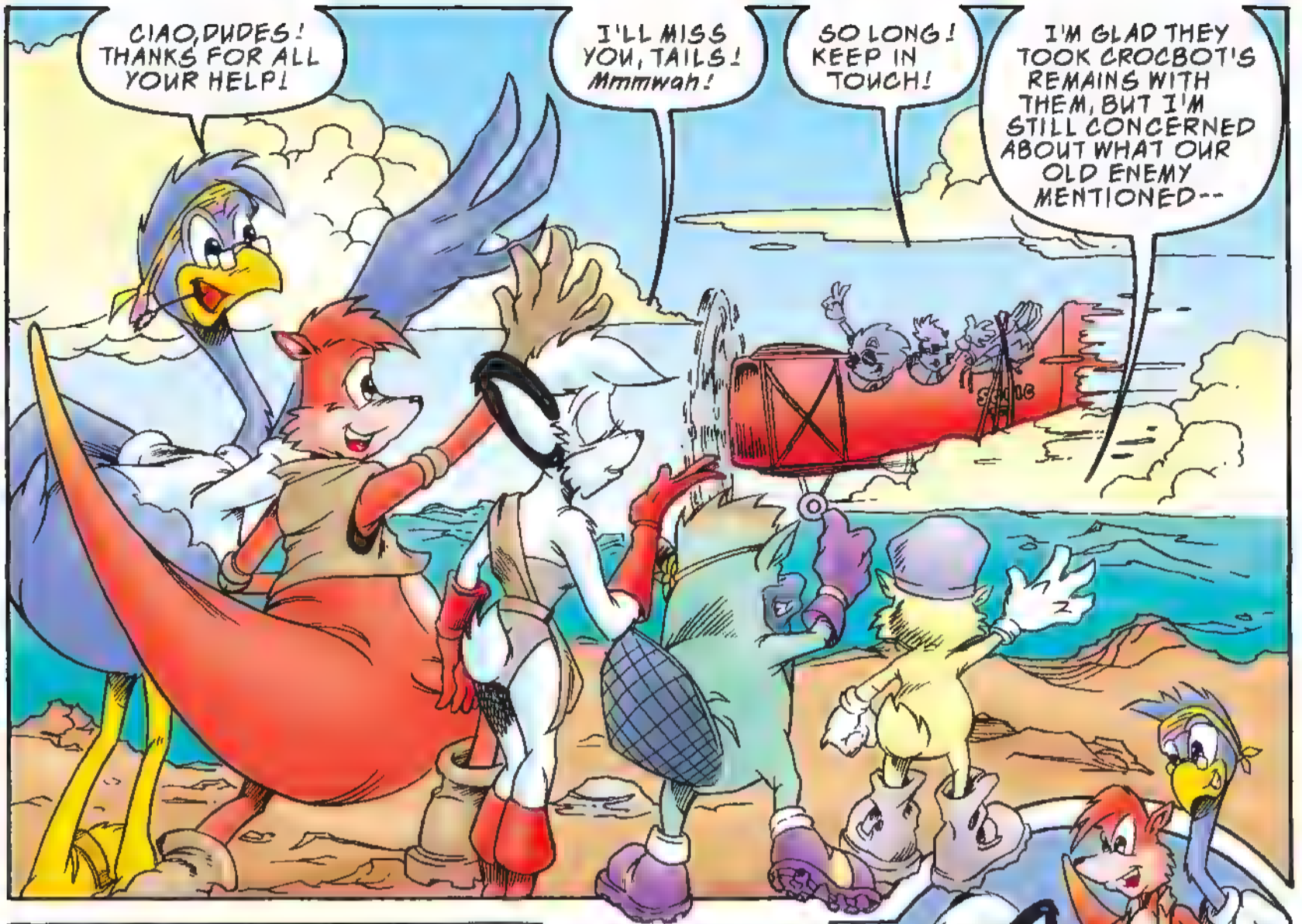
BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER ANY-
WAY-- -KSSSSSSH- FOR WHEN
THE **BHNYIPARRIV**-- -blip-

HEY, THAT'S
MY DECISION
TO MAKE!

AFRAID NOT
MARSH-PAL!

I HAVE AUTHORIZATION
FROM KING ACORN HIMSELF
TO DISCONNECT AND CONFIS-
CATE ANY AND ALL HOSTILE
MECHANICAL DEVICES.

WE DEFER TO
THE KING. TAKE
CROCBOT AWAY
--AND GOOD
RIDDANCE!

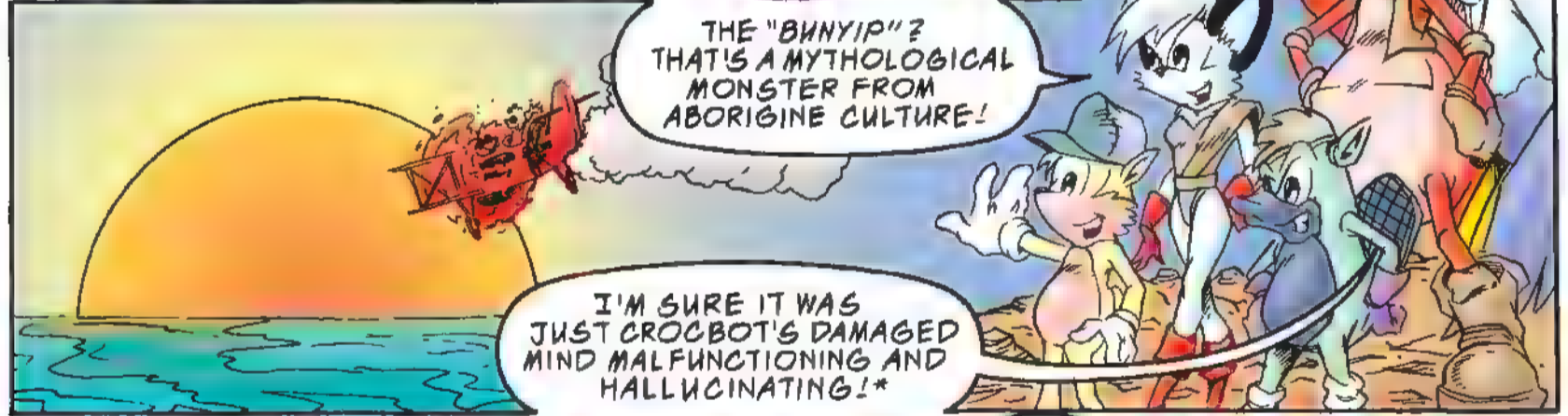


CIAO, DUDES!
THANKS FOR ALL
YOUR HELP!

I'LL MISS
YOU, TAILS!
Mmmwah!

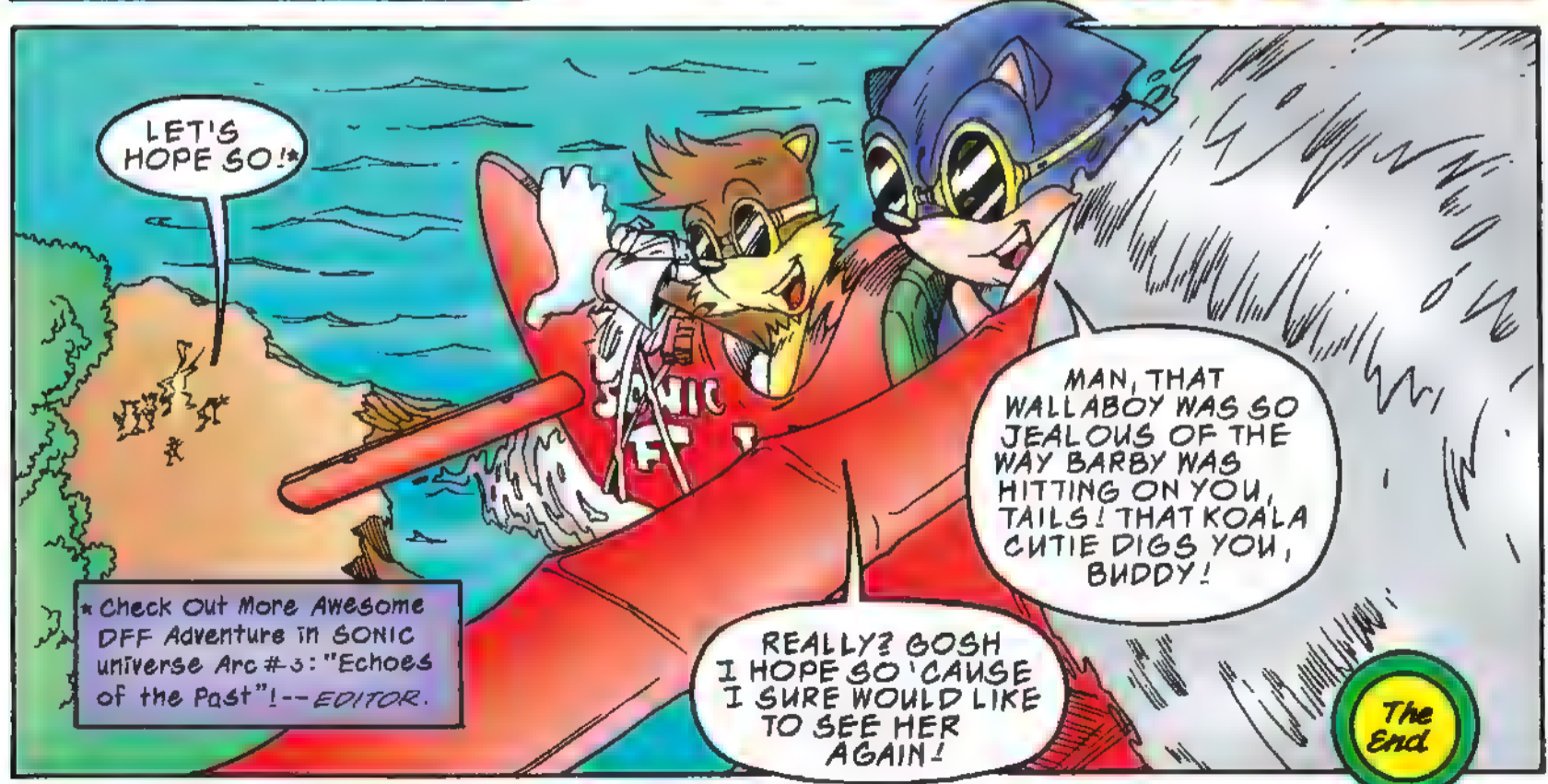
SO LONG!
KEEP IN
TOUCH!

I'M GLAD THEY
TOOK CROCBOT'S
REMAINS WITH
THEM, BUT I'M
STILL CONCERNED
ABOUT WHAT OUR
OLD ENEMY
MENTIONED--



THE "BUNYIP"?
THAT'S A MYTHOLOGICAL
MONSTER FROM
ABORIGINE CULTURE!

I'M SURE IT WAS
JUST CROCBOT'S DAMAGED
MIND MALFUNCTIONING AND
HALLUCINATING!*



LET'S
HOPE SO!*

MAN, THAT
WALLABOY WAS SO
JEALOUS OF THE
WAY BARBY WAS
HITTING ON YOU,
TAILS! THAT KOALA
CUTIE DIGS YOU,
BUDDY!

REALLY? GOSH
I HOPE SO 'CAUSE
I SURE WOULD LIKE
TO SEE HER
AGAIN!

* Check Out More Awesome
DFF Adventure in SONIC
universe Arc #3: "Echoes
of the Past"! -- EDITOR.

The
End



PIN-UP COLORING FUN BROUGHT TO YOU BY HARVEY "HARVO" MERCADOOCASIO!

SONIC & TAILS

I'M SURE **GLAD** WE'RE NOT CHASING THE EVIL WIZARD **IXIS** NAUGHS AROUND THE PLANET BY **BOAT**, **SONIC!** THIS OCEAN LOOKS REAL **ROUGH** IF YOU ASK **ME!**

DON'T **WORRY** ABOUT THE **WAVES**, **TAILS!** IN TWO **SECONDS** WE MIGHT REGRET TAKIN' MY **BI-PLANE!**

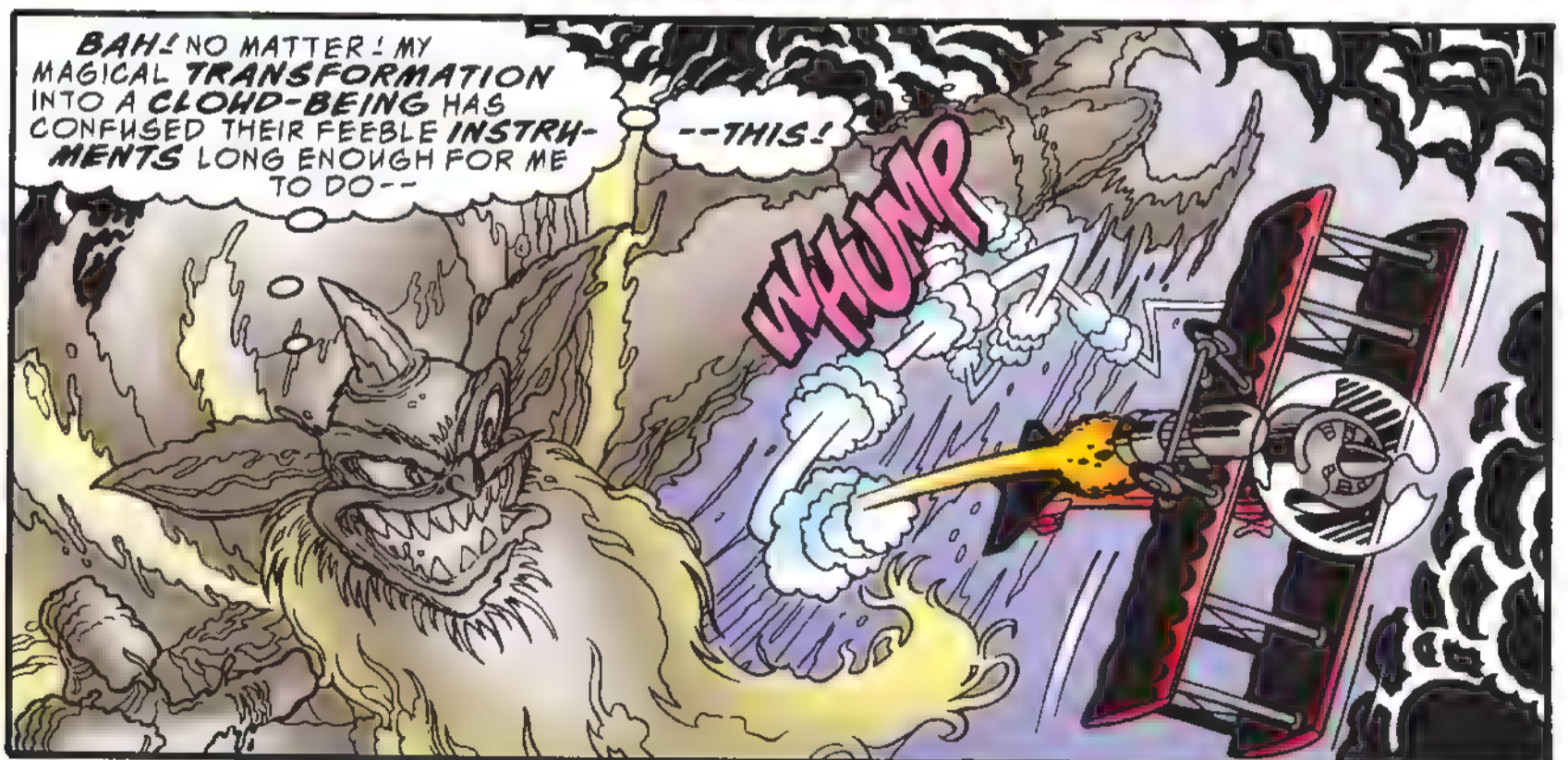
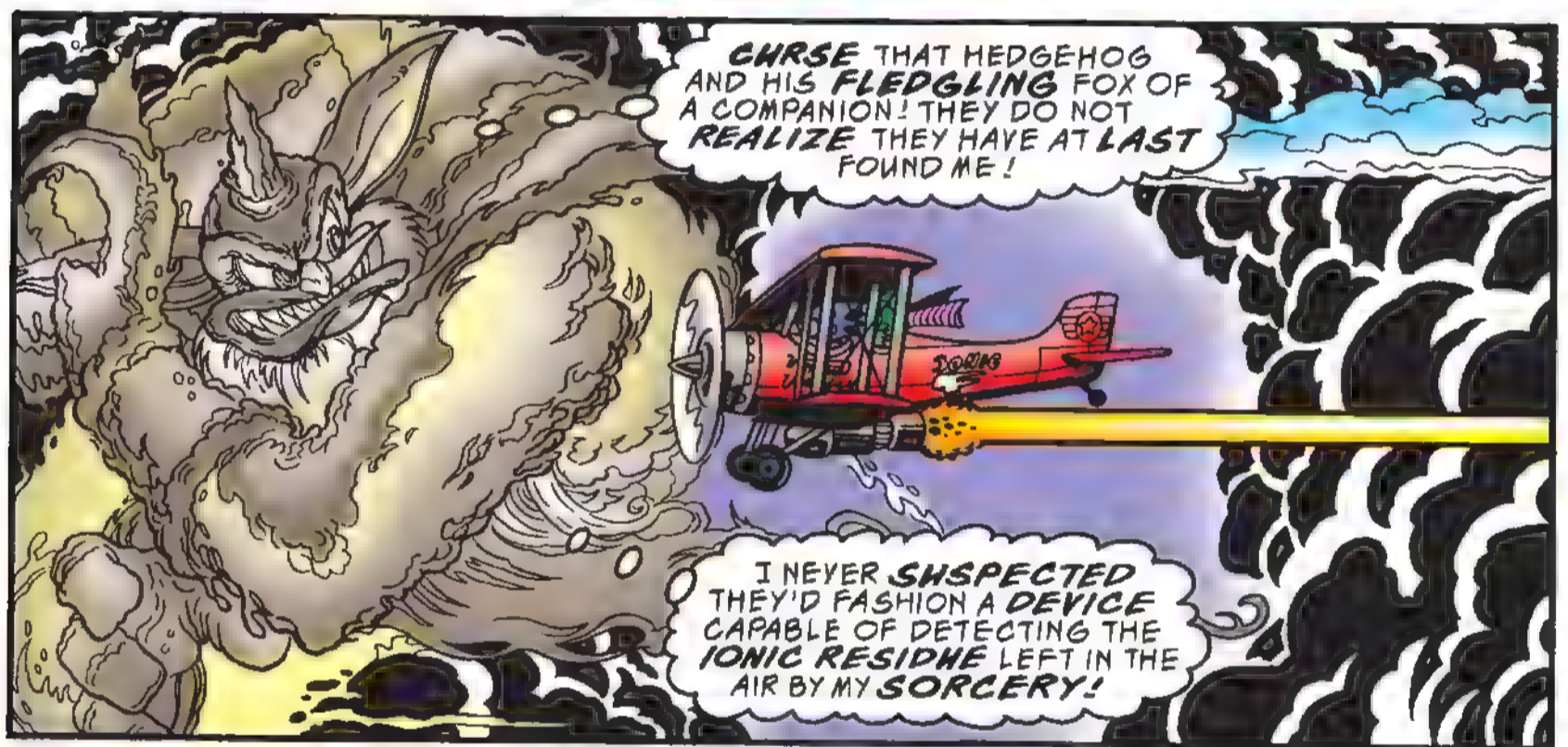
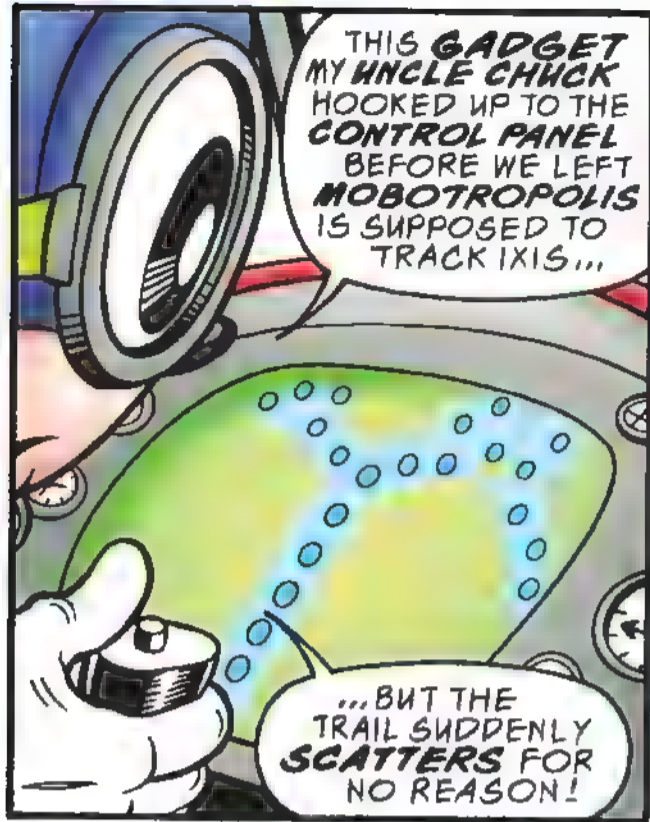
WHY?

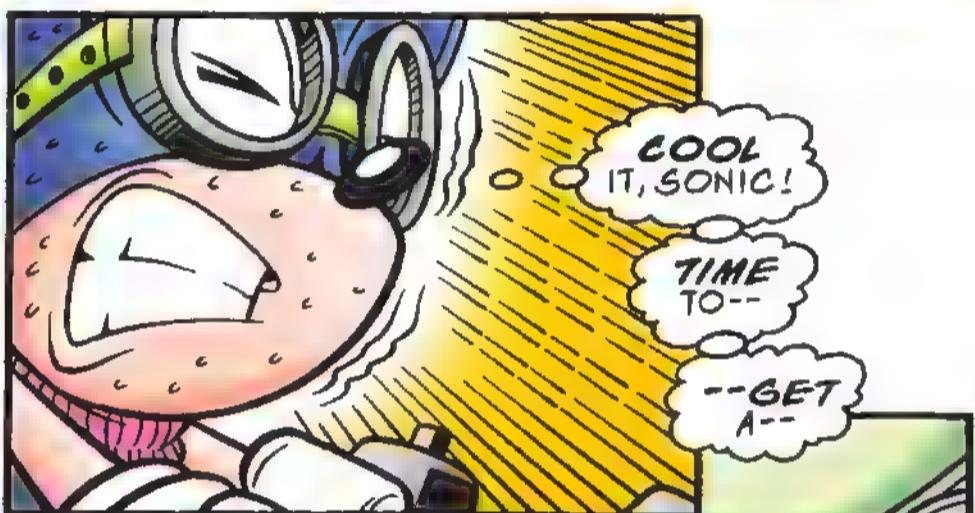
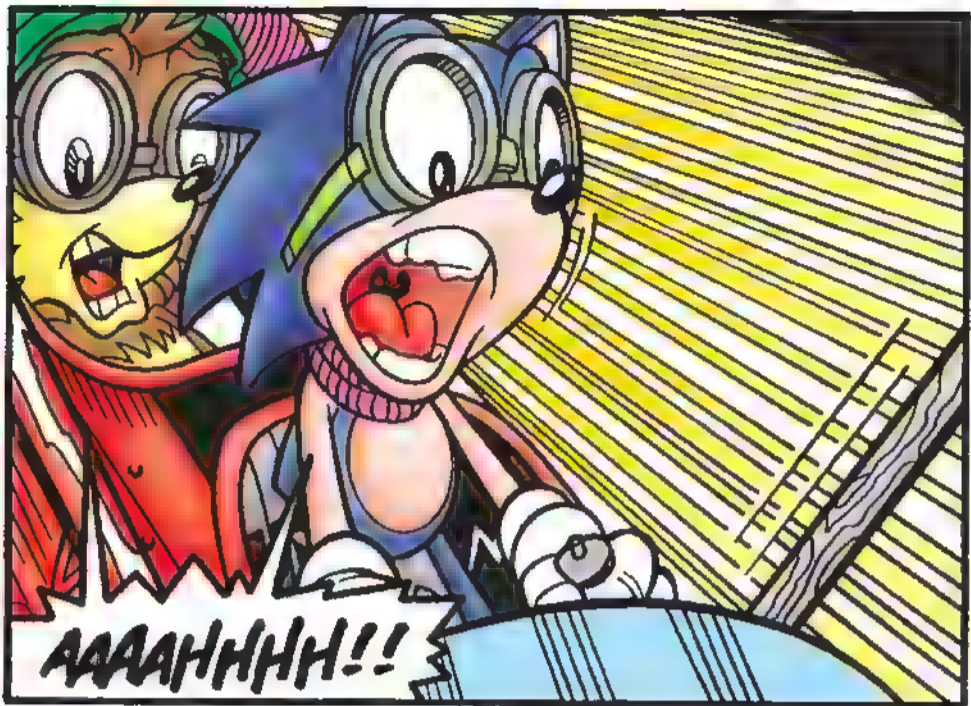
CHECK OUT THOSE **CLOUDS** UP AHEAD! FROM THE **NASTY** LOOK OF 'EM, OUR **HANDS** ARE GONNA BE FULL JUST **FLYIN'** THESE UNFRIENDLY **SKIES!**

MAKE NO **MISTAKE**, LI'L BUDDY! WE'RE DEFINITELY IN **FOR--**

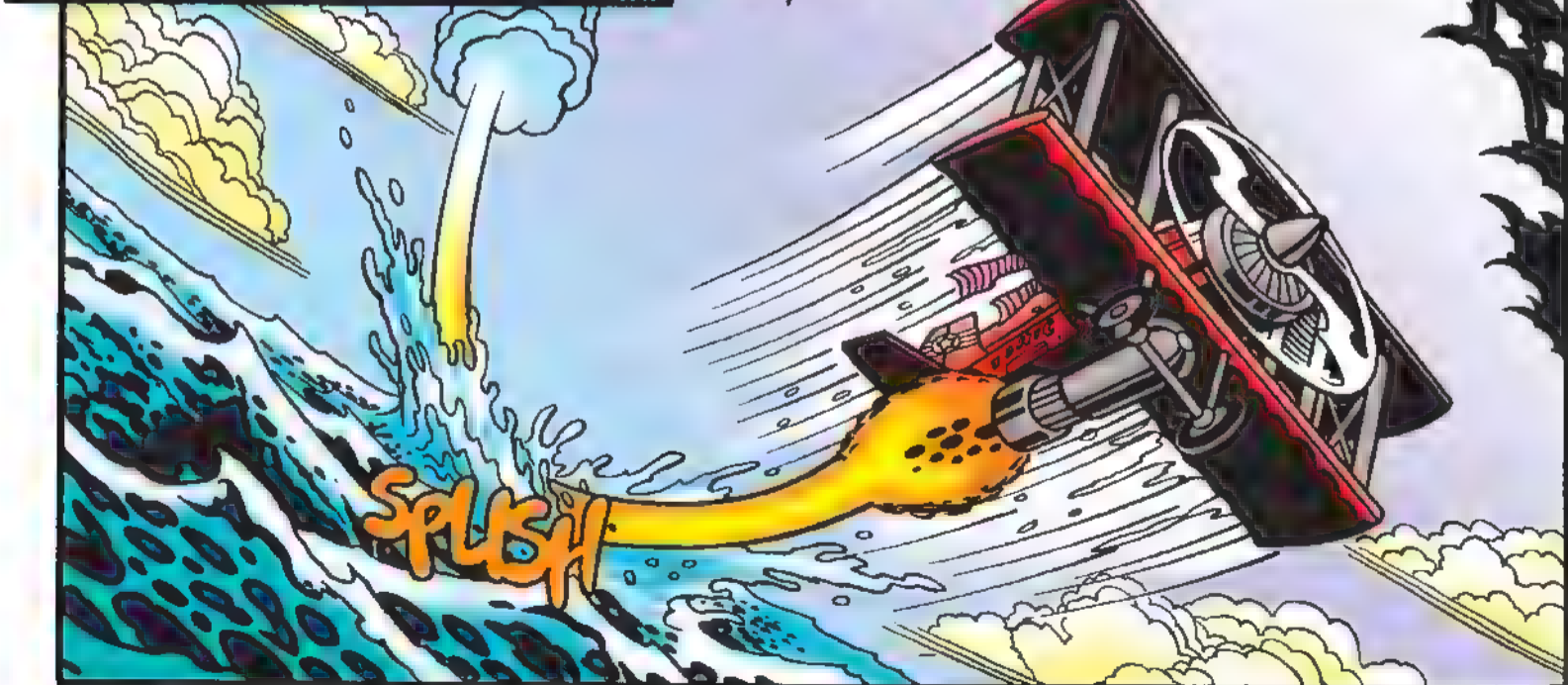
TOTAL TURBULENCE

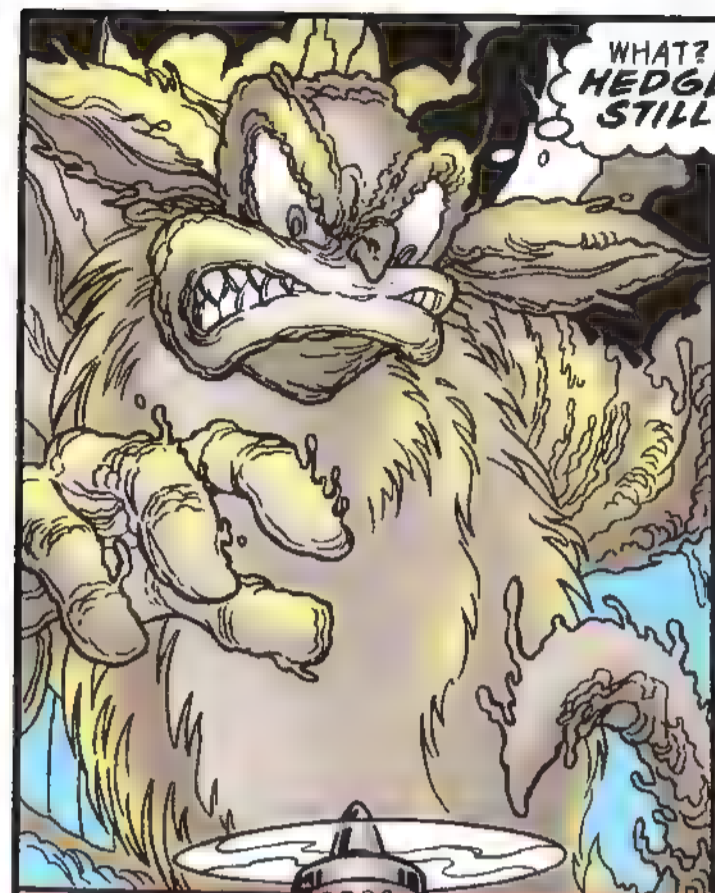
KARL BOLLERS • Writer
STEVEN BUTLER • Penciler
JIM AMASH • Inker
FRANK GAGLIARDO • Colorist
JEFF POWELL • Letterer
JUSTIN GABRIE • Editor





--OR WE'RE BOTH TOAST!

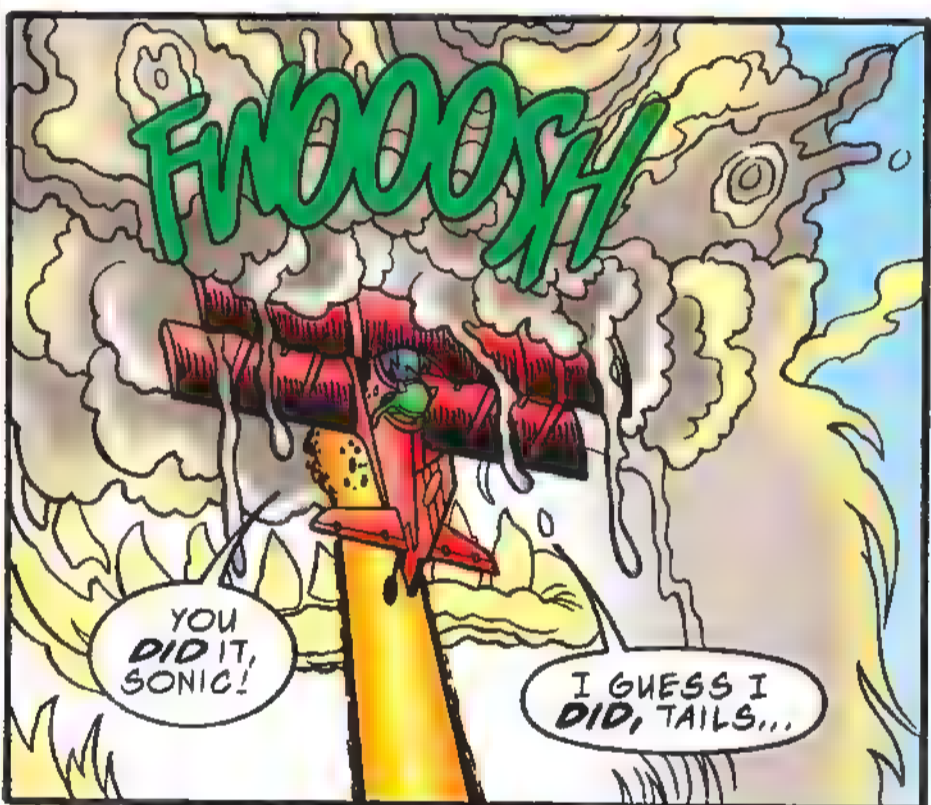
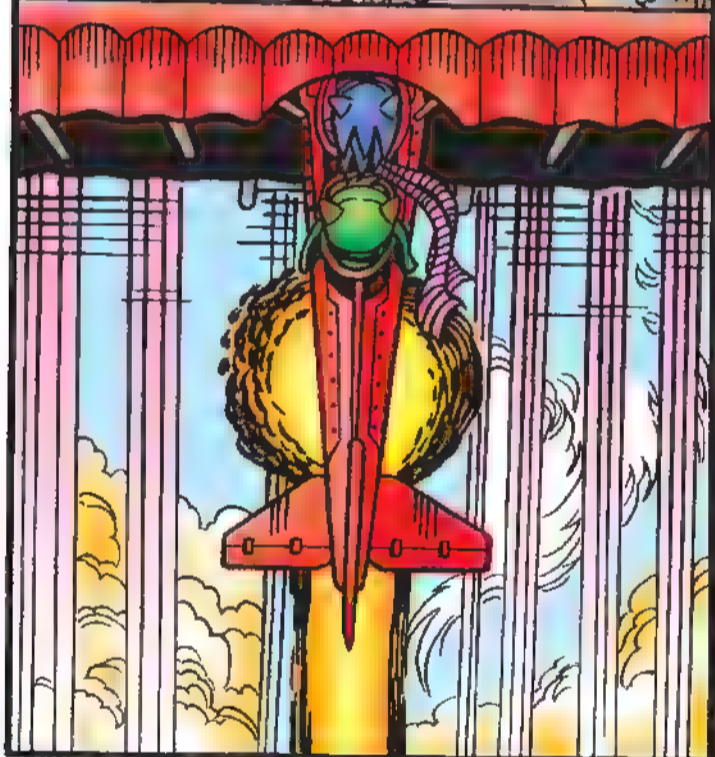




WHAT? IT'S THAT HEDGEHOG! HE STILL LIVES!

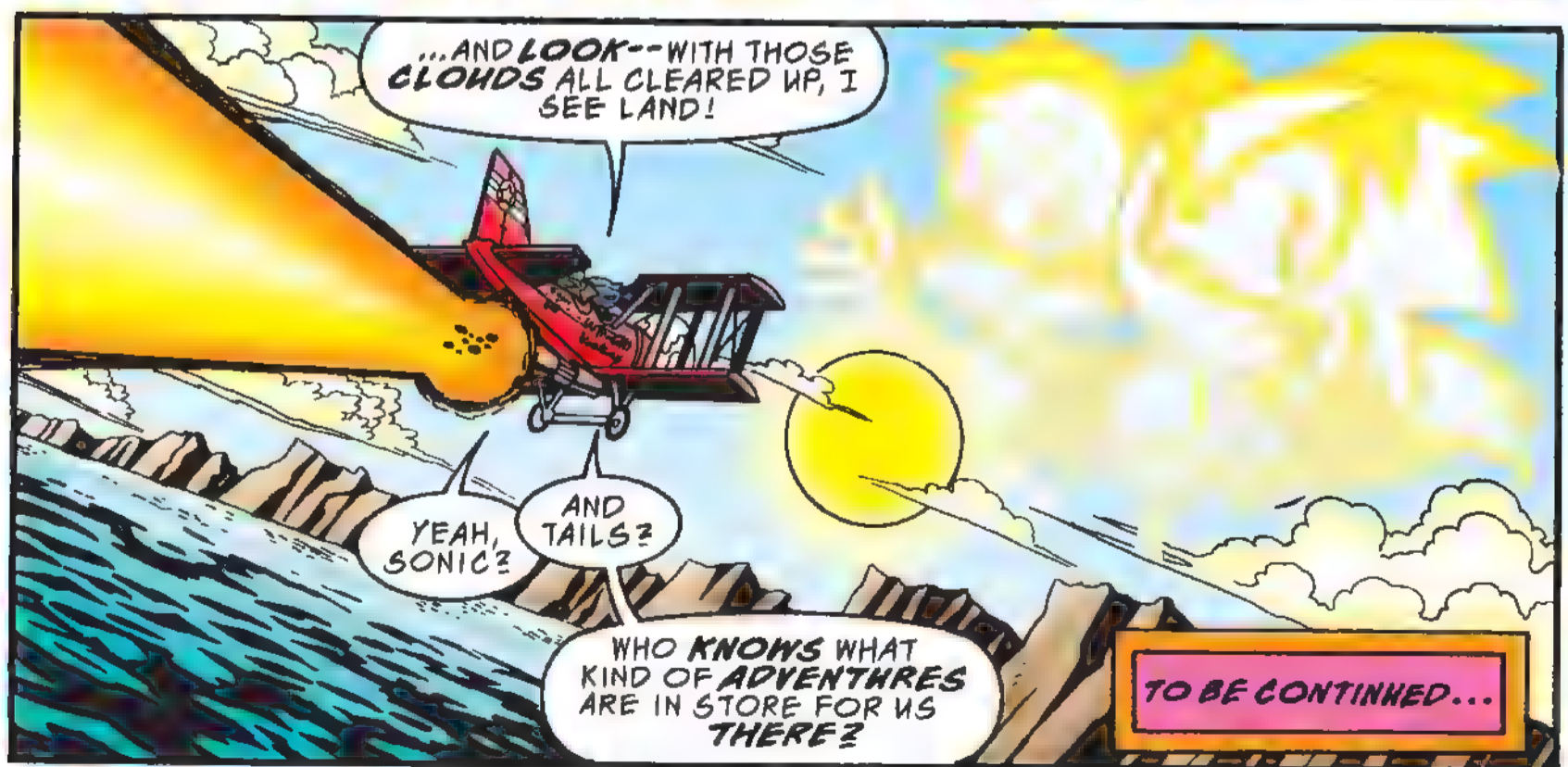


GULP



YOU DID IT, SONIC!

I GUESS I DID, TAILS...



...AND LOOK--WITH THOSE CLOUDS ALL CLEARED UP, I SEE LAND!

YEAH, SONIC?

AND TAILS?

WHO KNOWS WHAT KIND OF ADVENTURES ARE IN STORE FOR US THERE?

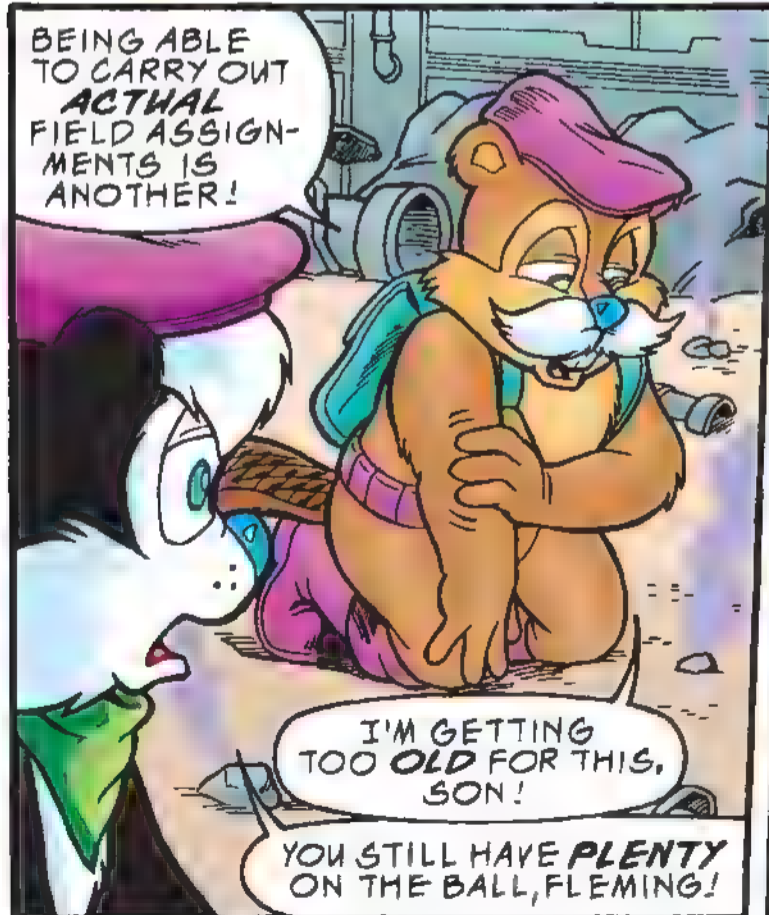
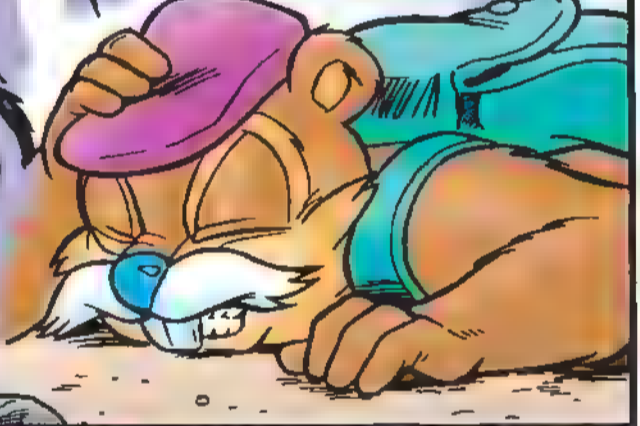
TO BE CONTINUED...



THAT WAS CUTTING IT CLOSE!

DEACTIVATING ROBOTNIK'S LEFTOVER DEATH-TRAP IS ONE THING!

YOU ALL RIGHT, FLEMING?



BEING ABLE TO CARRY OUT **ACTUAL** FIELD ASSIGNMENTS IS ANOTHER!

I'M GETTING TOO OLD FOR THIS, SON!

YOU STILL HAVE **PLENTY** ON THE BALL, FLEMING!



NOT ANYMORE!

I'VE BEEN WITH THE **SECRET SERVICE** SINCE YOUR DADDY WAS IN CHARGE--

The Looney Tunes Show

Presents:

GEOFFREY ST. JOHN

**ON HIS MAJESTY'S
SECRET SERVICE**



--AND NOW IT LOOKS AS THOUGH MY TIME HAS COME AS WELL!



WITH THE RETIREMENT OF LIEUTENANT FLEMING FROM THE SERVICE--

--IT BEHOOVES YOU TO RECRUIT SOME VERY SPECIAL AGENTS!

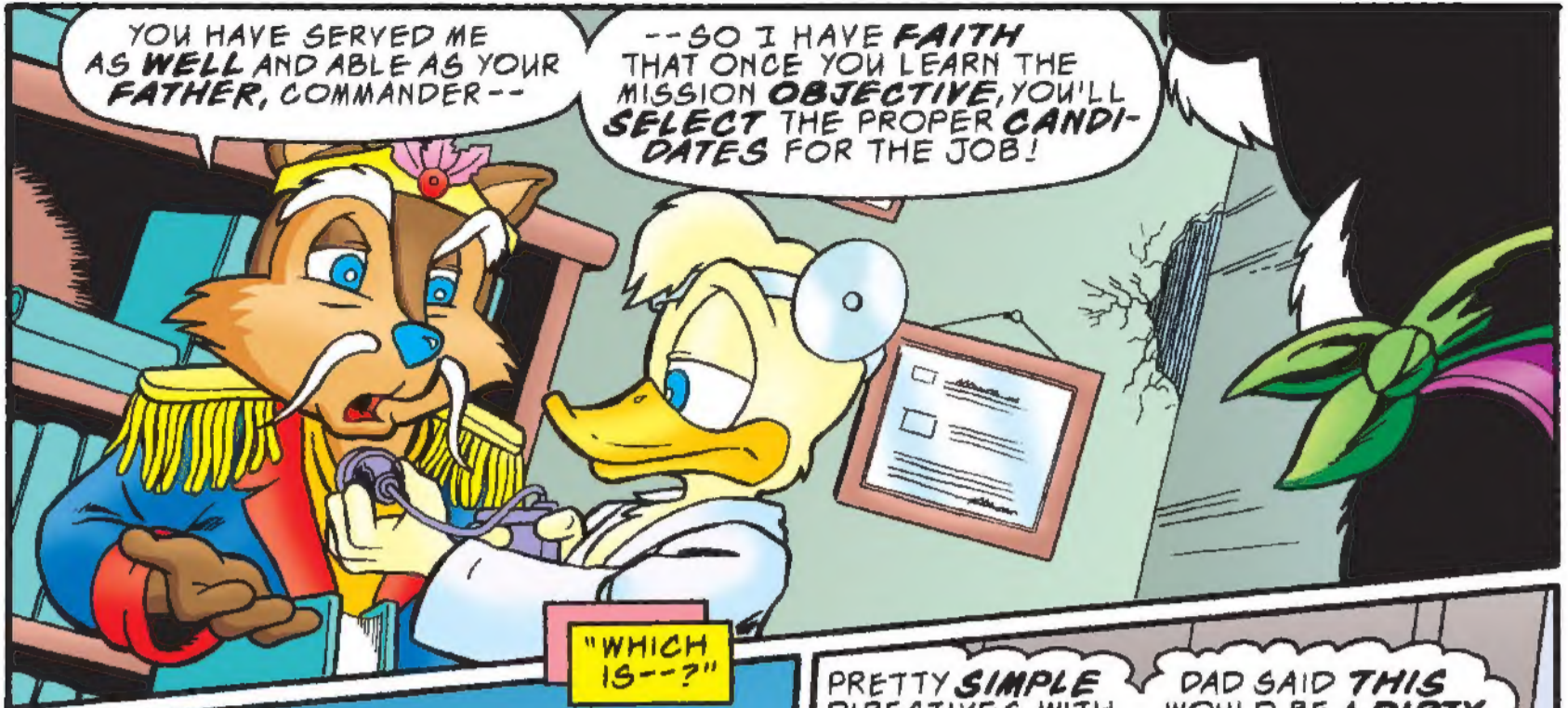
THERE ARE NEW ENEMIES AND THREATS FACING THE REALM, AND WE NEED TO BE READY FOR THEM!

I'M WELL AWARE OF IT, SIRE!

IS THERE ANYONE IN PARTICULAR YOU HAVE IN MIND?



Ken Penders - writes, inks, colors
Art Mawhinney - draws
Jeff Powell - letters
Justin Gabrie - edits



YOU HAVE SERVED ME AS WELL AND ABLE AS YOUR FATHER, COMMANDER--

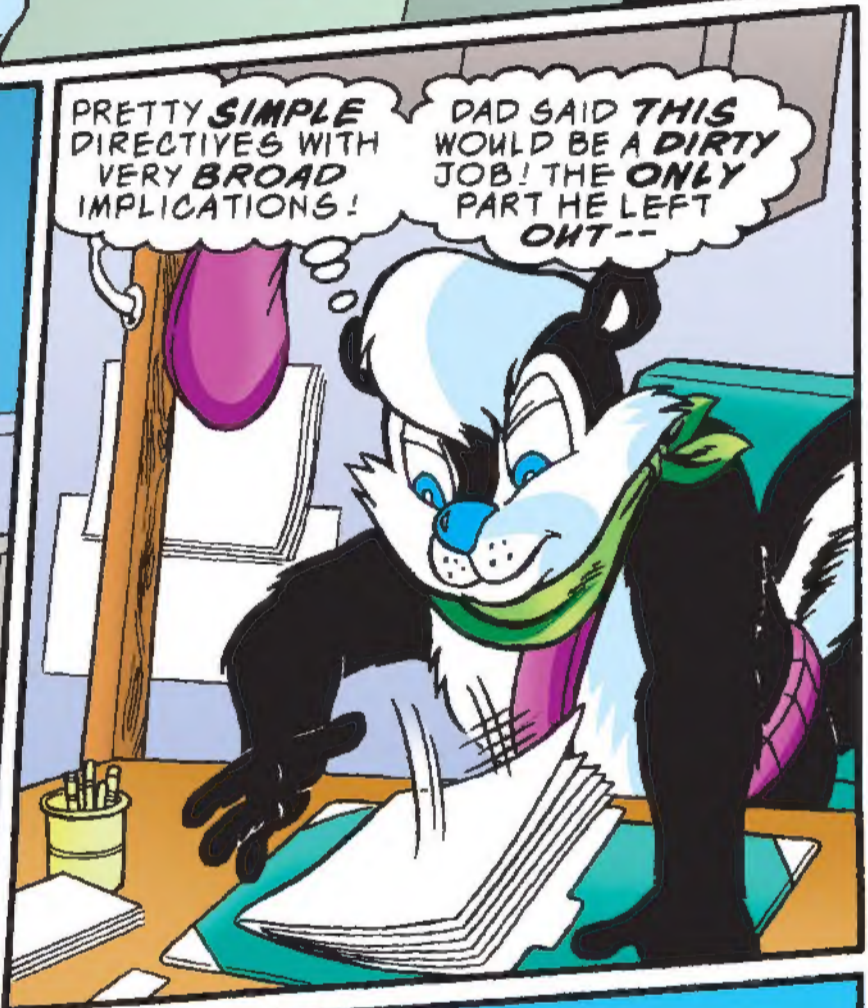
--SO I HAVE FAITH THAT ONCE YOU LEARN THE MISSION OBJECTIVE, YOU'LL SELECT THE PROPER CANDIDATES FOR THE JOB!

"WHICH IS--?"



"ASSEMBLE A STRIKE FORCE OF NO MORE THAN FIVE AGENTS CAPABLE OF COVERT ASSIGNMENTS INSIDE FOREIGN TERRITORIES."

YEP! THAT ABOUT SHMS IN UP IN A NHT SHELL!

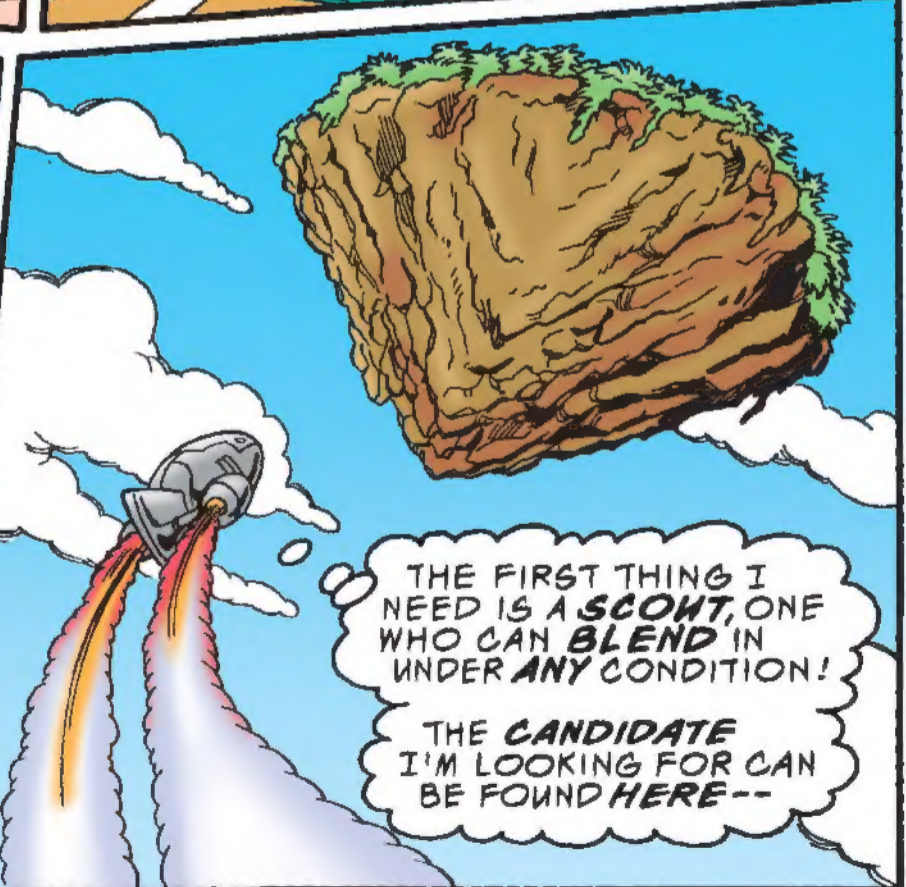


PRETTY SIMPLE DIRECTIVES WITH VERY BROAD IMPLICATIONS!

DAD SAID THIS WOULD BE A DIRTY JOB! THE ONLY PART HE LEFT OUT--

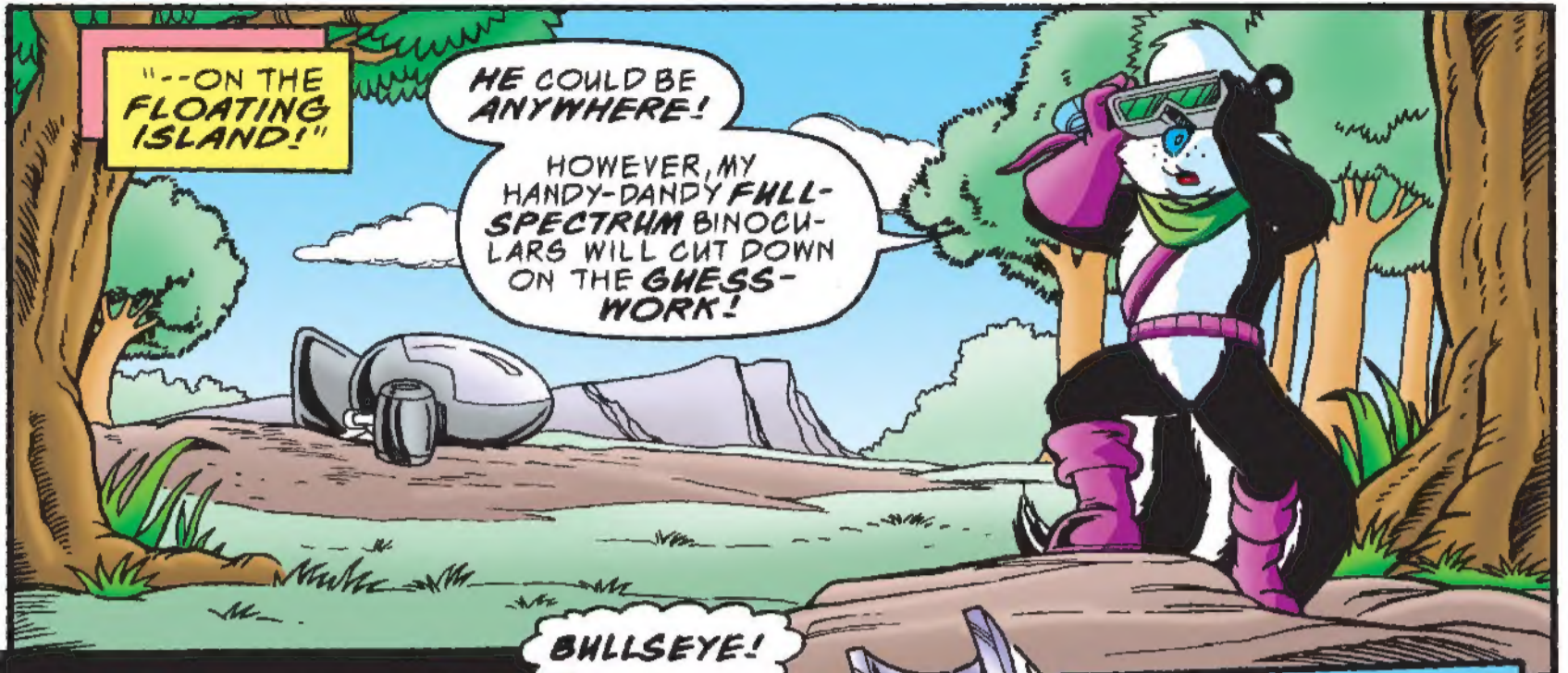


"--IS THAT THEY'RE ALL DIRTY JOBS!"



THE FIRST THING I NEED IS A SCOUT, ONE WHO CAN BLEND IN UNDER ANY CONDITION!

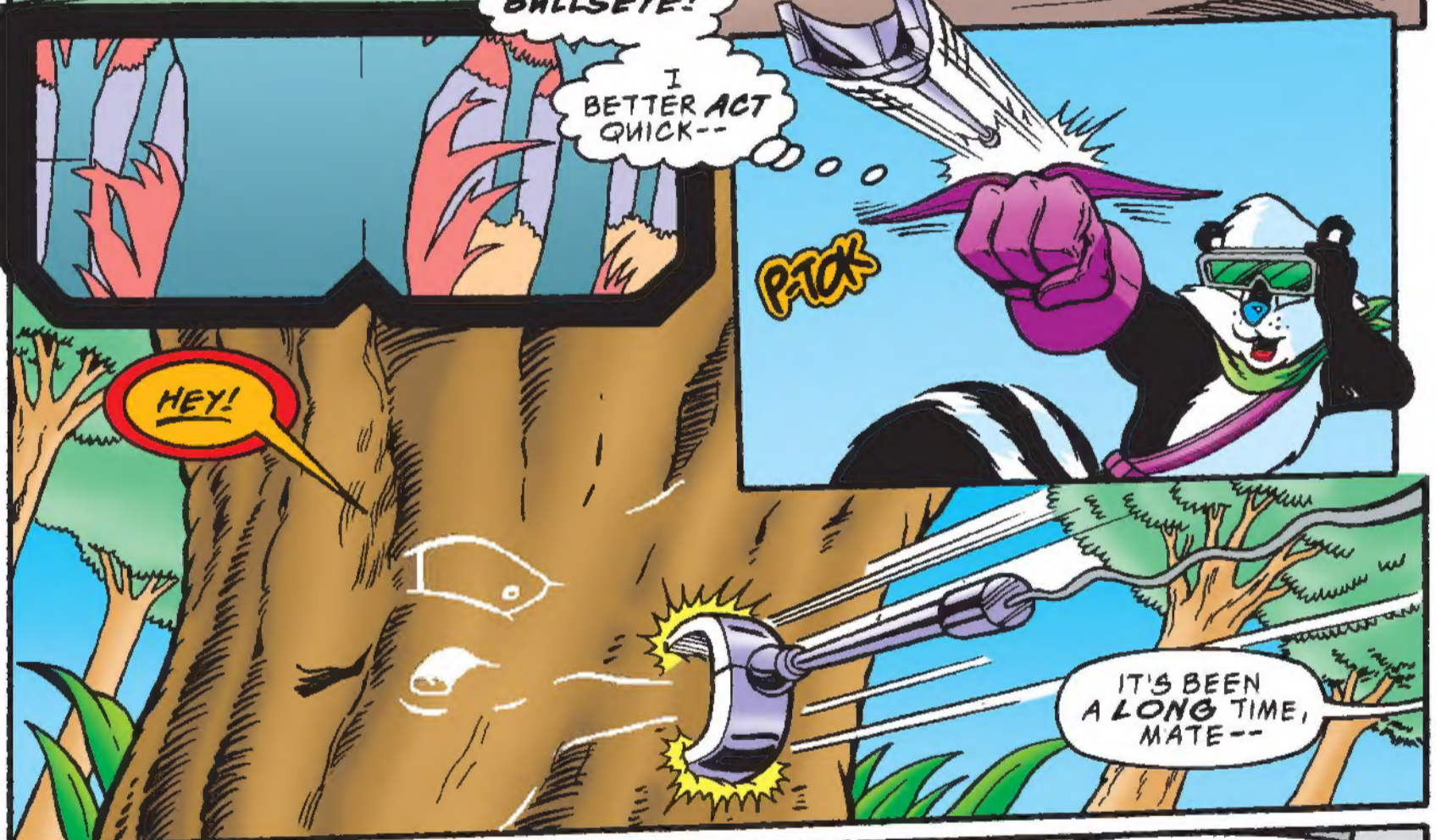
THE CANDIDATE I'M LOOKING FOR CAN BE FOUND HERE--



"--ON THE FLOATING ISLAND!"

HE COULD BE ANYWHERE!

HOWEVER, MY HANDY-DANDY FULL-SPECTRUM BINOCULARS WILL CUT DOWN ON THE GUESS-WORK!



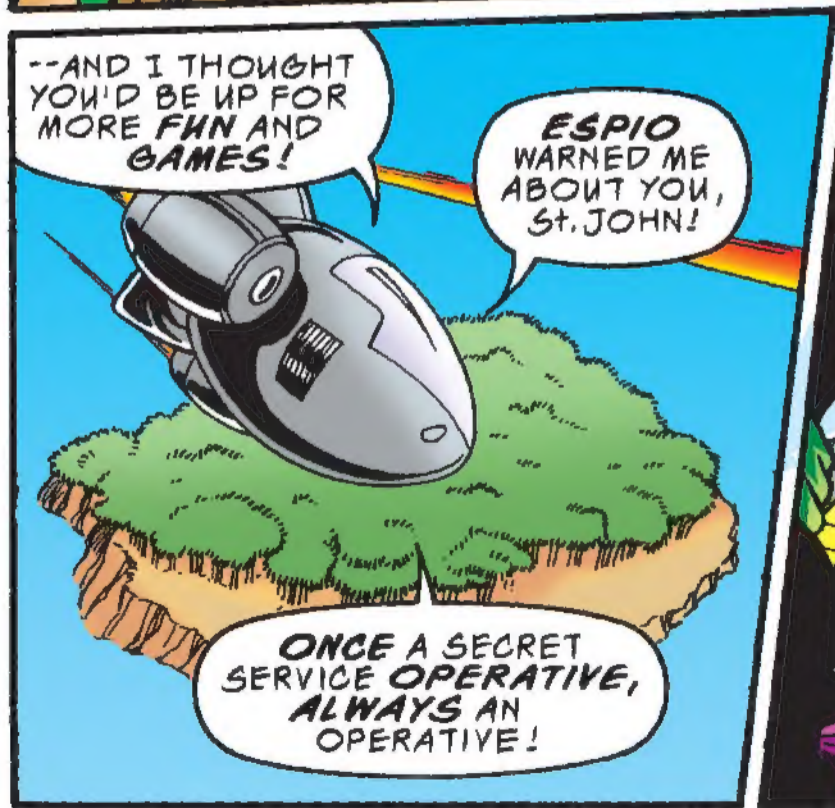
BULLSEYE!

I BETTER ACT QUICK--

PACK

HEY!

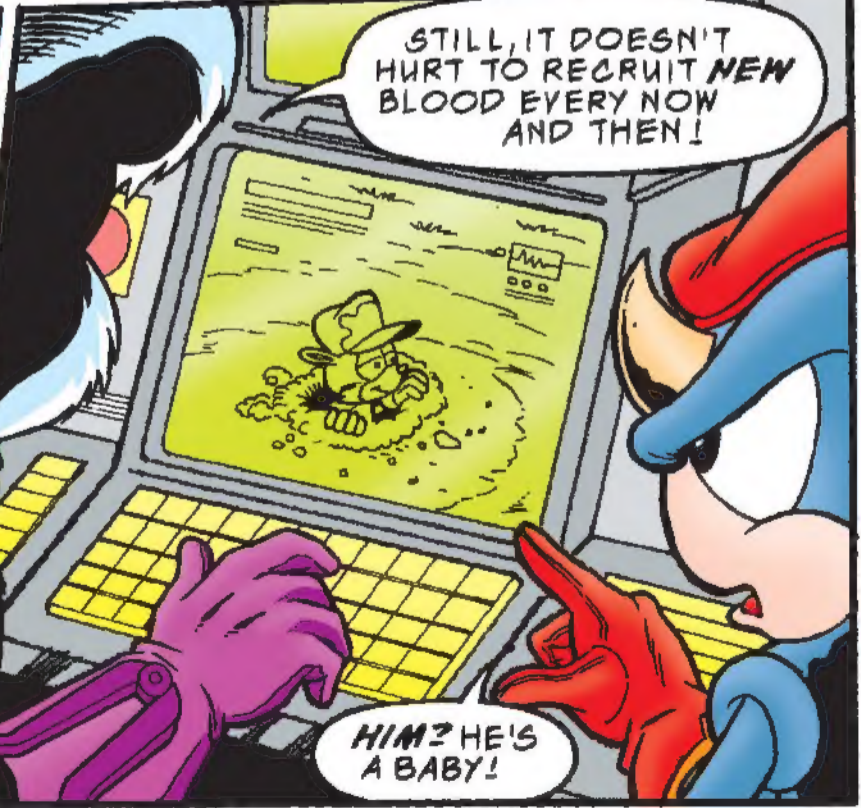
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, MATE--



--AND I THOUGHT YOU'D BE UP FOR MORE FUN AND GAMES!

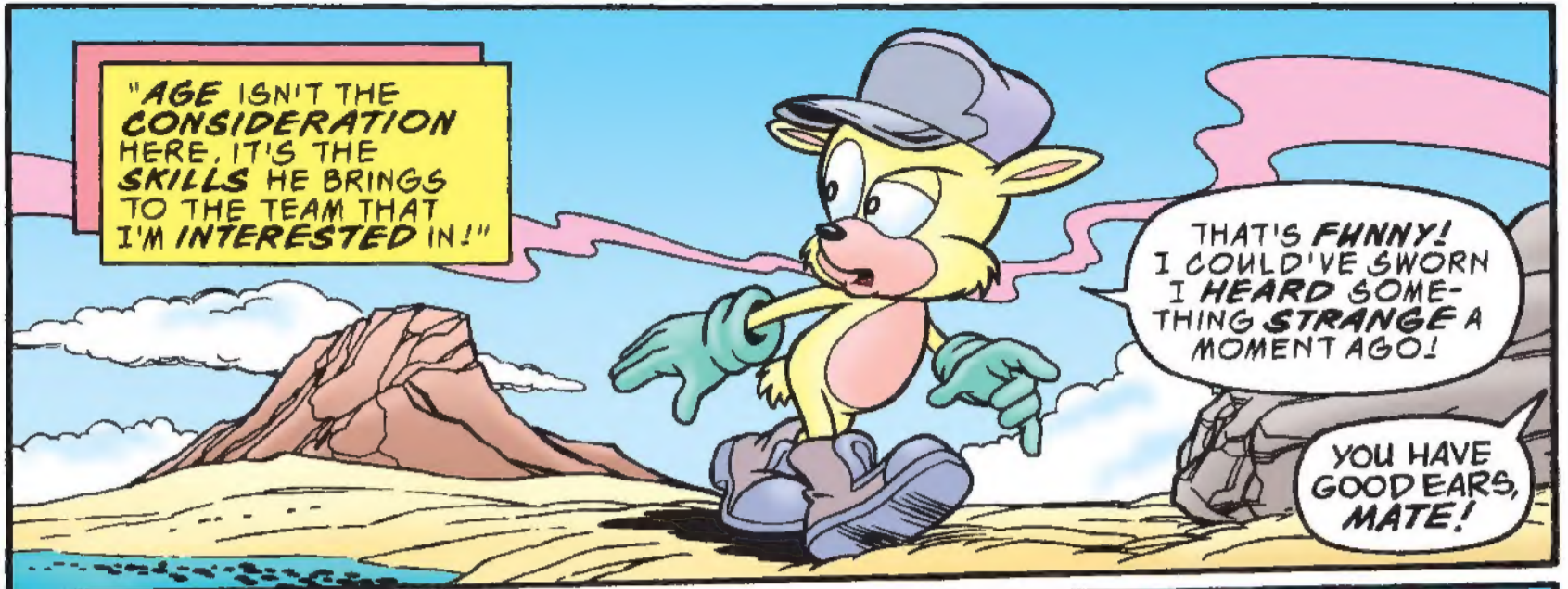
ESPIO WARNED ME ABOUT YOU, ST. JOHN!

ONCE A SECRET SERVICE OPERATIVE, ALWAYS AN OPERATIVE!



STILL, IT DOESN'T HURT TO RECRUIT NEW BLOOD EVERY NOW AND THEN!

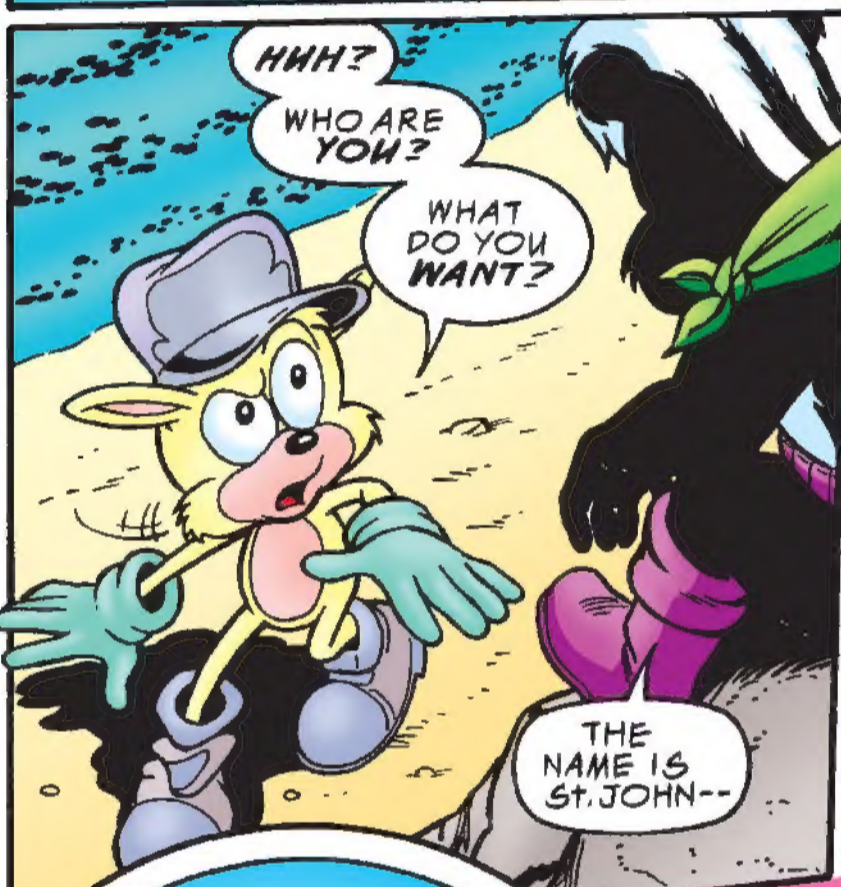
HIM? HE'S A BABY!



"AGE ISN'T THE CONSIDERATION HERE, IT'S THE SKILLS HE BRINGS TO THE TEAM THAT I'M INTERESTED IN!"

THAT'S FUNNY! I COULD'VE SWORN I HEARD SOMETHING STRANGE A MOMENT AGO!

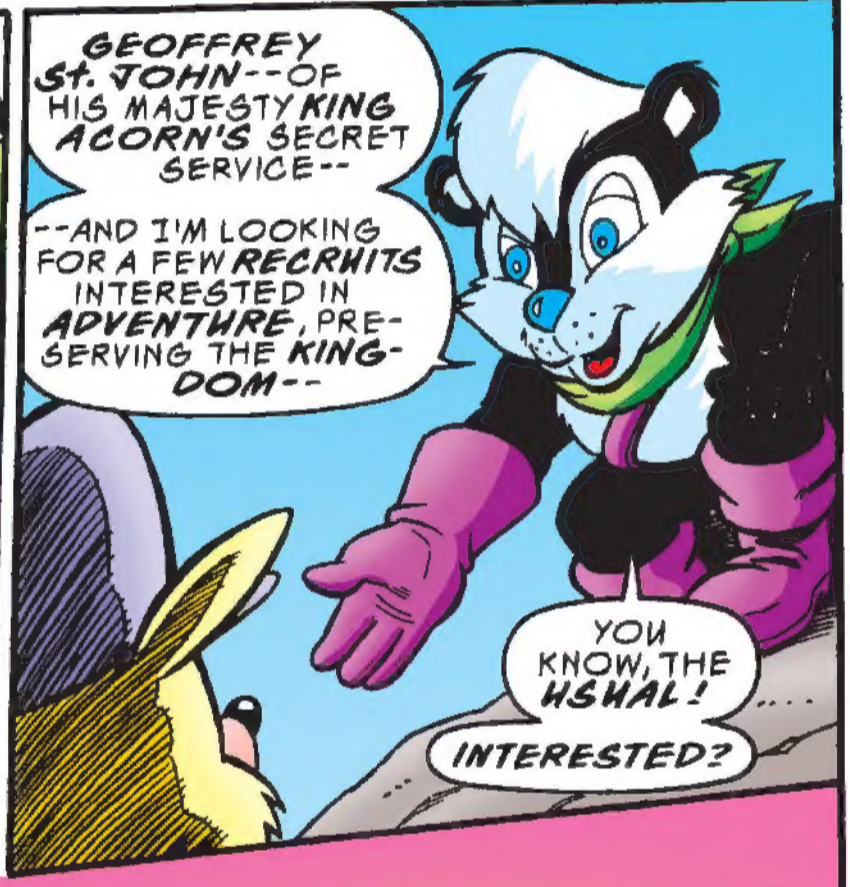
YOU HAVE GOOD EARS, MATE!



HMM? WHO ARE YOU?

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

THE NAME IS ST. JOHN--



GEOFFREY ST. JOHN--OF HIS MAJESTY KING ACORN'S SECRET SERVICE--
--AND I'M LOOKING FOR A FEW RECRUITS INTERESTED IN ADVENTURE, PRESERVING THE KINGDOM--

YOU KNOW, THE USUAL!

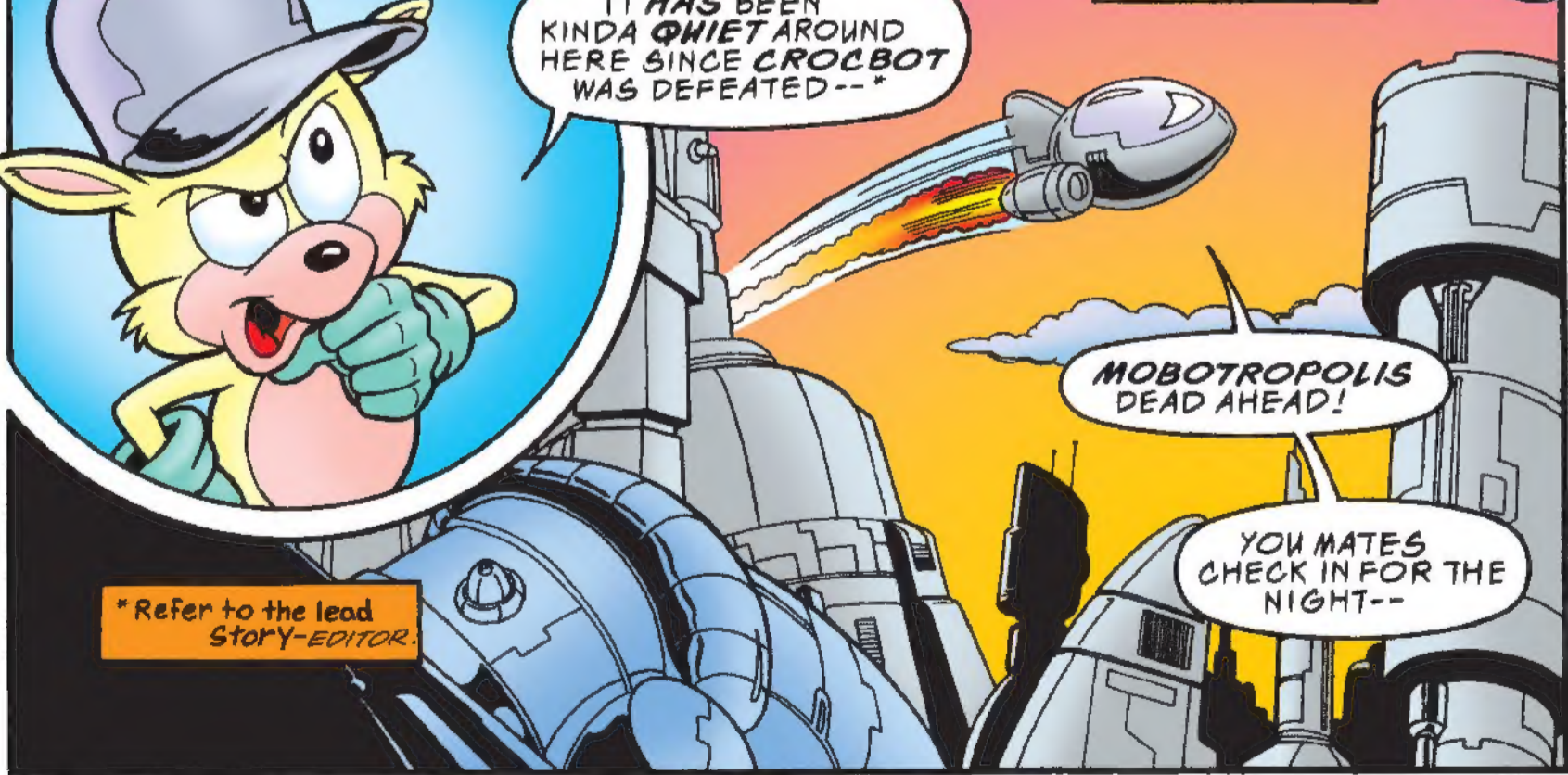
INTERESTED?



WELLLL--

IT HAS BEEN KINDA QUIET AROUND HERE SINCE CROCBOT WAS DEFEATED--*

"--SO, YEAH-- LIKE, I'M IN!"



MOBOTROPOLIS DEAD AHEAD!

YOU MATES CHECK IN FOR THE NIGHT--

*Refer to the lead story-editor.



"--WHILE I TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS!"

HAVE A MOMENT TO SPARE, LUV?

OH, GEOFFREY!

DO COME IN!



WORKING ON ANYTHING IMPORTANT?

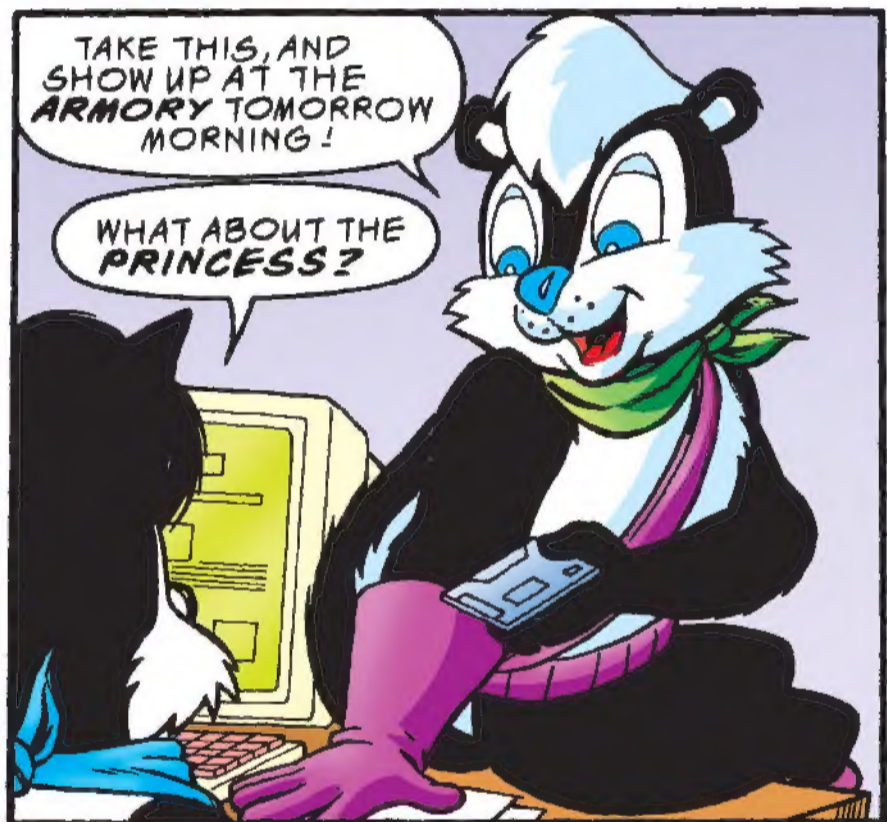
JUST COORDINATING VARIOUS WORK DETAILS ON REBUILDING THE CITY.

SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING A SWATBOT COULD DO!



PERHAPS, BUT PRINCESS SALLY NEEDED SOMEBODY TO DO IT AND I WAS AVAILABLE!

WHY? WHAT DID YOU HAVE IN MIND?



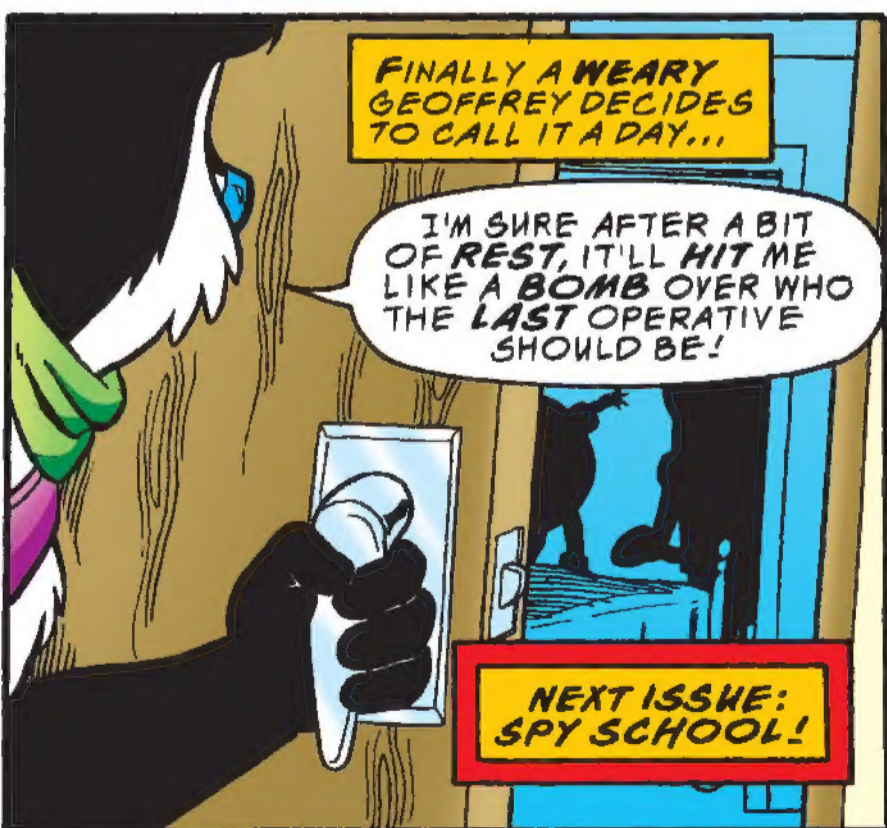
TAKE THIS, AND SHOW UP AT THE ARMORY TOMORROW MORNING!

WHAT ABOUT THE PRINCESS?



DON'T WORRY! I'LL SQUARE THINGS WITH HER!

THREE DOWN! JUST ONE MORE TO GO!



FINALLY A WEARY GEOFFREY DECIDES TO CALL IT A DAY...

I'M SURE AFTER A BIT OF REST, IT'LL HIT ME LIKE A BOMB OVER WHO THE LAST OPERATIVE SHOULD BE!

NEXT ISSUE: SPY SCHOOL!